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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
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INSIDE



Survival Tales

One prayed to God under a communion table as his church was blown to pieces around him.

NATION...Page 15



Anti-Base Rally

Thousands of Okinawans demand that a U.S. Marine base be moved off the island.

ASIA...Page 16



Record Sales

"Avatar" is maintaining its popularity in the move from box office to home video.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 21

Low scores noted in PSS bilingual subjects. **PAGE 2**
Head Start report reveals large unserved population. **PAGE 3**



T. Babauta

Babauta to make briefing on recommendations on status of alien workers in NMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Unless there is a last-minute change in his schedule, Assistant Interior Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta is set to arrive on Saipan for a Wednesday briefing on the

Department of the Interior's recommendations to the U.S. Congress on the status of long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

Babauta's visit comes a few days before the May 10, 2010, deadline set by law for the Interior secretary to report to Congress on the status of

alien workers in the CNMI.

U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law requires the Interior secretary, in consultation with the Homeland Security secretary and the CNMI governor, to make recommendations to the U.S. Congress—as the Interior secre-

tary deems appropriate—on what to do with the guest workers in the CNMI.

While not required to recommend a permanent immigration status for guest workers, Interior has already drawn up a set of recommendations

See **ALIEN WORKERS** on Page 4

'Parole-in-place' for aliens without umbrella permits



FIRST TIME ON SAIPAN

Kosrae Visitors Bureau administrator Grant Ismael shows some of the local arts and crafts from Kosrae, which sent for the first time a one-man delegate to the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival on Saipan. Kosrae's booth featured authentic fans from Malem, traditional baskets made of Pandanas leaves, and carvings of animals and fish wildlife. Dubbed the biggest cultural festival in Micronesia, the festival lasted three days, from April 23 to 25.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

ON THE NET

USCIS Web site:
www.uscis.gov/CNMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After 19 years on the same job, Emilio "Mel" Domingo's contract as maintenance carpenter was not renewed this year—all because he didn't have a so-called umbrella permit.

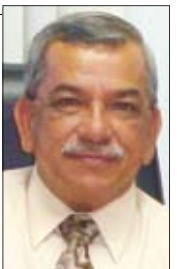
See **PERMITS** on Page 4

Babauta: DPL not dumping ground for Covenant supporters

» 'Nogis chosen over Villagomez for \$40K sole source contract'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta said yesterday that the Department of Public Lands is not a dumping ground for Covenant Party supporters, adding that consultant Felix R. Nogis and other DPL



O. Babauta

See **COVENANT** on Page 4



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Local

Low scores noted in PSS bilingual subjects

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Results of the standard-based assessment for PSS Chamorro and Carolinian Heritage Language Studies have been showing a consistent low score in the last several years, usually in the 29 percent range across all grade levels that offer the subjects.

Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcinas bared this yesterday, citing the lack of continuity and consistency in instruction as major reasons for this dilemma.

In Hopwood alone, the program not been properly administered because of the lack of instructors for the subjects.

Barcinas said his school only has three native language instructors: two for Carolinian and one for Chamorro.

Hopwood is home to 1,100 students and ideally needs about five instructors for each Chamorro and Carolinian sessions. As it is, sessions are only offered to eight graders, while seventh graders are just allowed to join them in class. This, Barcinas said, should not be the normal practice.

"We're not seeing any growth...and this is very alarming. We need to put our acts together now because keeping

our language and culture is very important," Barcinas said, adding that many schools share the same concern.

He lamented the difficulty of finding qualified instructors for the subjects and warned that if this trend continues and no action is taken to address the concern, the CNMI would soon be on the brink of losing its indigenous languages.

Board of Education officials disclosed Thursday that there is a plan to increase the credit for native language studies, initially in middle schools.

The board instructed Educa-

tion Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan to examine the data and gather input from teachers and principals.

At present, PSS gives a .5 percent credit for each Chamorro and Carolinian subject per semester. It was previously credited at 1 percent per semester.

Barcinas believes it is high time that the subjects be given higher credits—from .5 percent to 2 percent or 3 percent credits per semester.

He also emphasized the need to offer native language classes from kindergarten to high school. At present, only the elementary and junior high schools are mandated to offer the subjects; it is optional for high schools.



Barcinas

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A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

May 2010 Tourism Month

May 2010 marks **Tourism Month** in the Northern Marianas, as spotlight turns on the islands' leading industry. Lt. Governor Eloy Inos will make the proclamation official with a signing ceremony this Thursday, followed by a full month of tourism-related activities for the entire community.

Over 90 members of the tourism industry have gotten a jumpstart on the month with the annual tourism industry cleanup held yesterday (April 26) in downtown Garapan. The cleanup, spearheaded by the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)**, **Japan Saipan Travel Association**, **Korean Tour Association of Saipan**, and **Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands**, coincides with this week's launch of Tourism Month and the Golden Week holiday in Japan, which is expected to draw 17 charter flights of additional visitors to the Northern Marianas.

Visitors and residents alike are expected to flock to the signature event **Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden** to be held each Saturday at 6 p.m. at American Memorial Park. The annual event offers among the tastiest and best-priced international cuisine from local hotels and other food vendors, as well as non-stop live entertainment.

Hopwood Junior High School's MY WAVE (Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Club and **Marianas Tourism Education Council** are geared up for a beach cleanup on May 8 which will cover the beach by PIC Saipan, the school, and two popular local picnic spots, Pakpak Beach and Chalan Kanoa Beach.

Listeners are invited to tune in to local radio stations **Power 99** and **KZMI** throughout the month for their chance to win shirts and Taste of the Marianas by playing a tourism trivia game.

The MVA invites everyone to join the celebration of Tourism Month as the Northern Marianas recognizes the importance and benefits of the travel and tourism industry.



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Head Start report reveals large unserved population

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

A 31-page community assessment report completed by CNMI Head Start this year revealed that the program has a large unserved population on the islands.

With a total of 2,807 live births in the CNMI between 2006 and 2007, these children are now eligible for Head Start. However, with an enrollment of just 462 children, Head Start students represent just 16 percent of the 3- to 4-year-old population.

The December 2009 income eligibility report of the Women, Infants and Children's program

also notes that 86 percent of children enrolled in the WIC program—a total of 1,188 children aged 3 and 4—are eligible for the Head Start program.

"This suggests that there are 726 3- and 4-year-old children in the community who are income eligible for Head Start but...are not enrolled in the program. This is a large unserved population," according to the Head Start community assessment report for SY 2010.

The same report indicated that based on the 632 enrolled in kindergarten and 766 first graders in public schools, it is assumed that over a hundred kindergarteners did not have a preschool experience.

As of December 2009, there were a total of 112 children waiting to be accepted in the Head Start program.

Head Start is the only publicly funded preschool program that provides center-based services to eligible children and families. They are currently being served in 10 centers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The present enrollment of 462 children reflects a reduction in the 117 slots available in 2007—mainly due to a cut in federal funding.

Saipan Tribune learned that there were 18 children who withdrew from the program in program year 2009-2010 to transfer to private day care for

full day services.

Last Thursday, the Board of Education approved full-day sessions for kindergarten after finding out that the number of children on its wait list is growing every year.

There was also a legislative recommendation to push the compulsory school age to 5, from the existing 6 to 16 years old.

Other findings

The same report also revealed that a large number of children are being identified with developmental delays or disabilities in their early childhood years.

The number of children with disabilities enrolled in the Head

Start program are: 51 children in 2007; 41 in 2008; and 44 in 2009-2010.

The report also showed an increase in the number of children with autism and speech and language disorders.

Data also showed that 13 percent of families enrolled in Head Start have less than a high school diploma and 69 percent of Head Start children have dental caries.

To address these concerns, Head Start aims to enforce certain objectives, goals, and strategies in 2010.

Teen pregnancy

The report also indicated that

majority of teen deliveries are among indigenous Chamorro teens, and these babies are more likely to stay on island, fueling the growth of Head Start-eligible children.

In 2009, teen deliveries to females between the ages of 15-19 in the CNMI were pegged at 99.

Head Start said this data would have implications for the Department of Public Health, PSS, the child care program, and other programs and services for children and families.

To date, the CNMI does not have an Early Head Start Program, which serves pregnant women, infants, and toddlers.

PSS eyeing additional \$1.2M from SFSF

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Public School System is eyeing \$1.2 million in "extra funding" that could help address some of its projected shortfalls this school year and next fiscal year. The amount will come from the indirect cost generated from the \$34 million State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, which must be used within two years.

Woman is allegedly sexually assaulted, beaten by couple

A 53-year-old man allegedly sexually assaulted a woman while his wife beat up the victim when she came upon the two at a residence in San Vicente.

Michael Blodak was arrested on Saturday for sexual assault, criminal oral copulation, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman imposed a \$50,000 cash bail for Blodak's temporary release. The suspect was set to appear for a bail hearing yesterday afternoon.

Blodak's wife, Valeria Brel, was also arrested for assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. The schedule for her court hearing was not immediately clear.

Brel allegedly attacked the victim when she caught Blodak having oral copulation with the woman.

Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that they learned about the sexual assault after investigating a complaint about Brel beating up the victim on April 18.

According to the victim, Blodak sexually assaulted her eight times from December 2009 to April 2010—three times when she was intoxicated and five times when she was sober.

Aldan said that, during an interview with police, Blodak admitted having sex with the victim.

Aldan said preliminary investigation showed that on April 18, Brel beat up the victim when she caught her husband sexually assaulting the victim. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Indirect cost is the payment made by federal granting agency to PSS in exchange for the processing of the federally funded programs such as SFSF.

The Board of Education approved on Thursday the management's proposed use of the SFSF indirect costs: to cover shortfalls in personnel costs and augment recruitment efforts here and abroad.

Any balance in the amount will be used for other important areas, to be determined later by the PSS management, according to federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh.

The State Fiscal Stabilization Fund provides the CNMI \$44 million in total grants, with \$8 million allocated to the Governor's Office; \$34 million goes to public schools and the rest is for NMC.

Marylou Ada, chairperson of the board committee on capital

improvement projects, reported that as of last week, a third of the amount of the grant's first phase had been released and allocated for various school projects such as electrical update and campus repair and renovations.

For the second phase, Ada said about \$7 million has already been appropriated.

She added that requests for proposals for various projects have gone out and several ongoing school projects are now being funded by the grant.

The board also approved a revised application for the SFSF's second phase, amounting to \$1.3 million.

Thornburgh reported during the deliberation that the "proposed revision" was subsequently approved by the U.S. Department of Education. The \$1.3 million, he added, will be used for the system's leadership and training workshops, includ-

ing summer institutes and sessions. It also proposed using a certain amount to cover utility expenses of schools.

A portion will also be used to buy more laptops for middle school students. The system's One Laptop Per Child Project originally covered only high school students. It was later decided to expand the project to junior high schools. Thornburgh said there are four primary areas that will be addressed by the second phase of the grant: training, restoration and hiring of 105 posts, career technical education program, and the one laptop per child project.

The grant's first phase was designed to be used for school renovations and modernization.

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Club at the Hyatt cards welcome



PERMITS

From Page 1

“That’s the reason given to me when I was told that my contract won’t be renewed. They have been renewing my contract since they hired me in 1991 and that speaks of the quality of my work. My 201 file can attest to that. They said the CNMI Department of Labor would reject my renewal because I don’t have umbrella permit,” Domingo, 61, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon.

Domingo is just one of the many legal foreign workers who have lost their jobs because of a lack of an umbrella permit.

Others who also do not have umbrella permits but still have valid CNMI work permits are luckier than Domingo.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has announced that it will grant “parole-in-place” status to foreign nationals in the CNMI who do not have so-called umbrella permits and whose work permits expire before new visa categories are available to them under federal immigration laws.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has yet to issue the final regulations on foreign workers, foreign investors and foreign students.

Interim status

“Parole-in-place would give impacted foreign nationals authorization under federal immigration law to remain in the CNMI and permit continued

employment authorization until the CNMI-only transitional worker program and the CNMI investor status are implemented,” USCIS said in a statement.

Certain employers and their foreign national employees did not apply for umbrella permits covering the two-year transition period to federal immigration law.

The federal government took over CNMI immigration on Nov. 28, 2009 pursuant to U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

USCIS, one of the component agencies of DHS, said these employers and employees may have planned to apply for CNMI-only transitional worker visas immediately after the transition period began on Nov. 28, 2009.

However, a court ruling that month stopped this nonimmigrant category from being available.

“As a result, some foreign nationals face losing their legal immigration status because of a gap between the expiration of their current CNMI work permit and the availability of the new CNMI-only transitional worker status,” the federal agency said.

USCIS said certain foreign nationals with CNMI investor permits may also face a gap between the expiration date of their CNMI investor permit and the availability of the CNMI-Only E-2 investor status.

The CNRA or the federalization law extended most provisions of federal

Nogis, doing business as FELNO Consulting Services, is a Covenant Party member and a member of the Fitial-Inos Transition Review Committee. He is chairman of the Committee to Elect Joseph N. Camacho as CNMI Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives under the ruling Covenant Party.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial declined to comment on the matter when asked on Saturday after the opening ceremonies for the 29th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival in Susupe.

Nogis bagged the sole-source contract from DPL primarily for Northern Islands development projects and assessment of DPL’s policy in public land development and investment.

“One should not underestimate anyone’s ability to perform his job... And whether it’s a Carolinian from the Northern Islands or a Carolinian from Satawal, if a person is qualified for the job, then he is qualified for the job,” Babauta said.

In his sole source procurement justification for hiring Nogis, Babauta said Nogis “is ‘uniquely capable with over 15 years of administrative work

Federal Labor Ombudsman Pamela Brown had invited leaders of workers’ groups and other members of the community as early as last week to a “briefing” on the Interior report to U.S. Congress for long-term status of aliens in the CNMI.

The briefing, tentatively set for Wednesday at Brown’s office, is limited to those invited by the ombudsman. Each worker group, for example, was asked to send two representatives to the briefing.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, confirmed yesterday that he’s one of those invited to the briefing. He said he and UWM-NMI board chair Ronnie Doca will be attending.

“I’m looking forward to the recommendation that is favorable to the

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for parole-in-place, USCIS requires individuals to submit the following:

- A completed Form G-325, Biographic Information;
- 3 passport-style photos (2” x 2” front view);
- A copy of an unexpired entry permit;
- A copy of the photo page of a valid passport; and
- A statement from employer indicating that workers will have continued employment, or evidence of one’s continued investor status.

Affected foreign workers are asked to keep a copy of all these materials for their records.

USCIS said these documents should be mailed to this address:
USCIS

Attention: PAROLE - SAIPAN ASC
Sirena Plaza, Suite 100
108 Hernan Cortez Avenue
Hagatna, Guam 96910

For more information, visit the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov/CNMI.

immigration law to the CNMI beginning on Nov. 28, 2009.

As of that date, foreign nationals in the CNMI were considered present in the United States and subject to federal immigration law.

In implementing the CNRA, USCIS seeks to implement congressional intent by taking steps to minimize potential adverse economic effects on the CNMI and support future economic and business growth in the CNMI.

Hundreds without umbrella permits

Domingo, who has sought help from the Federal Labor Ombudsman, said he is not losing hope that he will also be able to obtain a status allowing him to work in the CNMI.

He said he has been advised by the federal agency to look for employment.

Domingo said the long line at the CNMI Labor discouraged him because it meant precious time away from work. He said days before the deadline for securing an umbrella permit, he was assigned a lot of work and could no longer go to Labor. He said he came back to Labor a few days in early December but was told the department no longer issues umbrella permits.

“I was told I should just register with the federal government,” he added.

Weeks before his contract with Hafa Adai Hotel Beach expired on Jan. 30, 2010, Domingo received a notice of non-renewal of his contract. He has since been without a regular job.

administration continues to hire people for jobs that may not be essential at this time.

Fitial revised the revenue projection from \$150 million to \$137 million for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2010. Government spending is also trending at \$170 million despite a revenue projection of only \$137 million, thus the need to cut spending.

Another \$40,000 contract in the offing

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources also wanted to hire Nogis for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service project and award him a \$40,000 sole source contract.

However, funding issues raised by the Department of Finance and questions raised by the Division of Procurement and Supply on the justification given for sole-source procurement, snagged the processing of Nogis’ federally funded contract with DPL.

DLNR Secretary Ignacio “Ike” Dela Cruz said yesterday that when Procurement and Supply returned DLNR’s sole source justification, DLNR was able to

Labor had announced that it would be issuing umbrella permits until 11:59pm on Nov. 27, 2009, or right before the federal government took over CNMI immigration at the stroke of midnight Nov. 28, 2009.

However, many foreign workers who went to the department hours before 12 midnight or after their work shifts were no longer given umbrella permits and were in fact scolded for not coming in early.

Others intentionally didn’t get umbrella permits, thinking at that time that the federal government would take over local immigration anyway and therefore waited for federal regulations to be issued.

Rene Reyes, founding president of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or MAHAL, which means “love” in the Filipino language, said his organization has been trying to help foreign workers without umbrella permits.

“There are hundreds of them whose contracts were not renewed because they didn’t have umbrella permits. Some employers wanted to renew their contracts because they believed in the quality of their work, but Labor said they won’t allow renewal without an umbrella permit,” said Reyes.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-CNMI, said his organization also has a lot of members without umbrella permits and have sought the help of the Federal Labor Ombudsman’s Office.

COVENANT

From Page 1

employees identified with the ruling party are qualified for the job they were hired for.

“The allegations that DPL is a dumping ground for political supporters are not true,” Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*.

It was the *Saipan Tribune* that broke the story last week about DPL’s \$60,000 sole source contract with Nogis.

Babauta, a former member of the House of Representatives for 18 years including as speaker, said “it just so happens that Mr. Nogis applied for the project and after review of his qualifications, he meets the requirements of DPL to implement P.L. 16-50.”

“His proposal is very good as far as DPL fulfilling the mandate of PL 6-50 is concerned,” said Babauta, a staunch Covenant Party member.

P.L. 16-50, signed on Jan. 15, 2010, establishes a village and agricultural homesteading program in the Northern Islands.

ALIEN WORKERS

From Page 1

that Babauta plans to share with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial as early as Wednesday.

OIA field representative Jeff Schorr, when asked for comment, said yesterday that Babauta is scheduled to arrive on Wednesday, unless there’s a change in his schedule.

Schorr said Babauta plans to meet with Fitial on Wednesday.

He said the primary purpose of Babauta’s visit is a briefing on the Interior report to the U.S. Congress.

Press secretary Angel Demapan separately said yesterday that the Office of the Governor “has not received notice” of Babauta’s arrival.

workers in the CNMI. This is a significant value for alien workers in the CNMI,” he said.

Syed, a consistent supporter of workers’ rights in the CNMI, said: “Since the beginning, we have been requesting for improved immigration status and pathway to U.S. citizenship to long-term alien workers in the CNMI.”

He said the United Workers Movement-NMI is asking for lawful permanent residency status for alien workers who have been legally in the CNMI for five years or more, and a pathway to permanent residency for those who have been here for less than five years.

“We’re asking for improved status for all,” he said.

During Babauta’s last visit to the CNMI in March, he said the Interior was nearly done with its report to

Congress and was being reviewed by the Obama administration, but said it would be premature for him to disclose what the report contains without having it cleared by the White House.

He had said that he has consulted with Fitial and the Department of Homeland Security on the report.

Babauta also earlier said that has listened to guest workers, the business community and other sectors of the community before coming up with a report.

The Federal Labor Ombudsman’s Office made an accounting of some 20,000 nonresident workers and those with immediate relative status in December. The accounting of these individuals is part of the Interior report to Congress.

explain and convince the division about the need to hire a logistics coordinator immediately for the USFWS project.

The USFWS project is about the Northern Islands terrestrial/marine survey, which is being done as part of a U.S. Navy project.

Dela Cruz said USFWS’ Dr. Earl Campbell and CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Sylvan Igisomar narrowed down the selection of qualified applicants for Northern Islands logistics coordinator to Nogis and Jack Villagomez.

“In the end, they chose Nogis,” Dela Cruz said.

Government employees facing work hour cuts also questioned awarding contracts to a person with a federal conviction and whether the contract amount required a public notice.

Nogis was convicted on federal theft charges involving over \$15,000 worth of personal telephone calls to and from Palau and other places in 2000 when he was still executive director of the Workforce Investment Agency, and submitted the bills for those calls to WIA, which was receiving federal funds.

In response to a *Saipan Tribune* inquiry, Ombudsman Pamela Brown disclosed that as of Monday, over 18,000 alien workers in the CNMI have filed registration forms and her office expects around 1,500 more to be submitted yesterday, the last day of the “accounting” process.

In December, Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said in a news briefing that the Fitial administration won’t oppose the federal government if it decided to grant “green cards” to nonresident workers in the CNMI.

Fitial reiterated, though, that CNMI Public Law 3-66, which he authored when he was a member of the 3rd Legislature, allows foreign workers to come here as a “privilege” only, if and when resident workers are not available.

Ex-DPW official in theft case reaches plea agreement

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The scheduled jury trial of a former official of the Department of Public Works facing theft charges did not push through yesterday after the prosecution and the defense reached a plea agreement.

Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo vacated the trial of Antonio

Sablan Demapan after assistant attorney general William Downer told the court about their agreement. Govendo set a change of plea hearing for today, Tuesday, at 9am.

Downer told *Saipan Tribune* that the government and the defense agreed to settle the matter outside the court.

"The terms of the agreement will be made public then," Downer said.

Mangrove planting caps Nat'l Park Week, Junior Ranger Day

National Park Week culminated with the planting of mangroves in celebration of National Junior Ranger Day last Saturday.

National Park Week is observed on the third week of April to coincide with Earth Day, April 22. Here on Saipan, the National Junior Ranger Day marks the last day of celebration of National Park Week.

According to Park Ranger Nancy Kelchner, 50 students from the National Honor Society program of Saipan Southern High School helped plant 210 freshwater mangroves in a manmade wetland located at the border between the memorial side and the recreation side of the American Memorial Park.

"We are endeavoring to use a natural process to clean the water that comes out of Garapan. Instead of using concrete and pumps, we're going to use trees," Kelchner explained.

She said she wanted to help educate the young members of the community about better and simple ways to promote sustainability and contribute to the preservation of natural resources. She remembered the protected natural mangrove forest here on Saipan and thought about the juvenile mangroves there that

would eventually die because of all the adult trees they have to compete with in the forest.

Kelchner took the students to the protected area, talked about the National Park Service and why they preserve such areas, and joined them in harvesting the juvenile mangroves.

According to Kelchner, they had to plant quite a number of trees because about half of them will die, depending on how they were harvested. The trees will grow and mature in time for 2016, which is the 100th year of the National Park Service.

Kelchner was also delighted that the students volunteered to adopt the American Memorial Park to watch over the newly planted mangroves over the summer.

Aside from the tree planting, other activities that were part of the National Park Week celebration were various film showings; recyclable crafts making participated by Whispering Palms School, Seventh-Day Adventist School and Garapan Elementary School; and the Environmental Expo held on April 21-22 in partnership with the Division of Environmental Quality and the Coastal Resources Management. (*Saipan Tribune*)

Demapan was charged with two counts of conspiracy, two counts of theft by unlawful taking or disposition, and two counts of removal of government property.

The other defendant, businessman John Tenorio Sablan, was charged with two counts of

possession of government property. His bench trial is scheduled for May 17, 2010.

Investigators at the Attorney General's Office arrested Demapan and Sablan for the alleged illegal transfer of \$1,185 worth of diesel fuel and a \$58,000 DPW-owned bulldozer to a private company.

vate company.

Demapan was at the time acting director for DPW's Transportation Automotive Heavy Equipment Division.

A government investigator said 352.6 gallons of diesel fuel were "donated" to Sablan's JG Sablan Co. in Lower Base.

The fuel was said to be donated by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to DPW's TA-HED for official use for DPW's equipment only.

A bulldozer, owned by the government and in the custody of DPW, was allegedly transferred to Sablan without following proper procedures and without any documentation or necessary approval.

Ex-CRM chief now Fitial's senior policy adviser

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Coastal Resources Management Office administrator Dr. John B. Joyner has been appointed Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's senior policy adviser, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Joyner fills up the former position of Ramon "Ray" C. Mafnas, who was appointed by the

governor and was recently confirmed by the Senate as commissioner of the Department of Corrections.

Joyner's appointment does not need Senate advice and consent.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that Rita

Chong-Dela Cruz is now the CRM administrator, replacing Joyner.

Joyner assumed his new job after CRM moved from its San Jose location on Beach Road to its new office at the Springs Plaza, near the Covenant Party headquarters on Middle Road.



Joyner

Prepaid Phone Specials

EXTENDED! till May 1, 2010

			
Motorola v323i	LG 5600	LG 8500	LG MG160
Motorola v323i CDMA Camera Phone \$50.00*	LG 5600 CDMA Camera Phone \$75.00*	LG 8500 CDMA Music Phone \$99.00*	LG MG160 GSM Dual-Band \$50.00*
Motorola w396 GSM Dual-Band \$75.00*	Nokia 3555 GSM Quad-Band \$99.00*		
		Motorola w396	Nokia 3555



ONE PREPAID CARD FOR GSM & CDMA

Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza, Garapan) on Saturdays

New Store Hours: Tuesday to Saturday: 9:00am to 6:00pm • Sunday & Monday: Closed

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FREE AIRTIME! when using PTI & IT&E Long Distance Prepaid Cards

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Life in Motion



Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents

Board of Regents Conference room, NMC – Saipan Campus
Friday, April 30, 2010, 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. December 30, 2009 – Regular meeting
 2. January 12, 2010 – Special meeting
 3. March 4, 2010 – Special meeting
 4. March 15, 2010 – Special meeting
 5. April 8, 2010 – Special meeting
 6. April 12, 2010 – Special meeting
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. REPORTS
 - a. Associated Students of NMC
 - b. Staff Senate
 - c. Faculty Senate
 - d. President
 1. CFAO Financial Report
 2. BOR Standing Committees
 1. Fiscal & Legislative Committee
 - a. Board Resolution No. 2010-02: To update bank account signatories
 - b. FY 2007 & 2008 Financial Audit
 2. Personnel Committee
 - a. HR Policy Revision
 3. Program Committee
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. WASC Accreditation Update
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION
(At any time during the scheduled meeting the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
- VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

/s/Janet Han King
BOR Chairperson

April 27, 2010

Veteran prosecutor victorious in all trials on Saipan

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher has so far prevailed in all jury and bench trials in the cases he has handled on Saipan since joining the Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division in April 2009.

Saipan Tribune learned that Gallagher won all 11 jury and bench trials in the Superior Court on Saipan in cases involving child sexual assault, public corruption, domestic violence, prostitution, promoting prostitution, and one driving while under the influence of alcohol.

The only two times he did not

get convictions were for trials on Tinian.

To date, Gallagher has tried approximately 200 cases, including those in the U.S. mainland. Of those cases, 57 were criminal felony jury trials.

When asked about his impressive record, the prosecutor said he is not comfortable talking about a win/loss record as trial attorney.

"Just let me say that since I became a prosecutor many years ago, I have won a lot of cases, and I have lost some too. We judge ourselves on our ability to serve the interests of justice. I believe that I have been able to do that," he said.

Any success he may have had as a trial lawyer Gallagher attributes to a number of factors. In the CNMI, he said, he has been able to surround himself with a truly dedicated team.

"We have some people in the Criminal Division who truly care about the people of the CNMI and the interests of justice," he said.

Gallagher said he is fortunate to be on a team with some extremely competent and dedicated investigators, victim-witness advocates, and other staff members who have a habit of making him "look good."

"The trial prosecutors in my office all work [unpaid] over-

time to learn their craft and serve the people of the CNMI. It is a pleasure to be associated with them," he said.

Gallagher was the first person to receive an LL.M., an advanced law degree in child law, in the country. While at the Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Gallagher was given a fellowship for scholars of Children and the Law. He was also the editor of the American Bar Association's *Children's Legal Rights Journal*.

Before coming to the CNMI, Gallagher was an attorney for the Rutgers University Juvenile Justice Clinic. Prior to that, he worked for many years as a jury trial prosecutor in Camden, New Jersey.

"Prior to coming to Saipan, I worked with a dedicated team of prosecutors, investigators and support personnel in New Jersey. While there, I had the

advantage of working with a number of very experienced and conscientious attorneys. There

were men and women who truly cared about justice and the law," he said.

Gallagher said they talked about law the way other people may talk about baseball or politics.

"Some of these men and women were truly giants in the profession, and I learned much from them," he said.

Gallagher's advice to young attorneys? Find an area of practice that gets you excited to get out of bed in the morning.

"Find a group of attorneys who know more than you do, listen to what they say, and then make your own decisions. Try not to make mistakes, but don't be afraid of them. Treat your clients and witnesses with respect, not as a means to an end," he said.

If young attorneys do those

things, he said, hopefully they can be like the lawyer who mentored him at the prosecutor's office in New Jersey. "Even after 30 years in law enforcement, he came to work every morning and said 'I can't believe that they pay me to do this job,'" Gallagher said.

One thing he likes about the CNMI is "the beautiful people and the scenery."

"There are many good people here on the CNMI, and I enjoy working and interacting with them," he said.

One of Gallagher's habits is to drive around Saipan on Saturday mornings and find an empty beach. He likes to sit with a book and a mug of tea and enjoy the scenery for a couple of hours before he returns to work.

"While I love the CNMI, I do miss my daughter terribly. She lives on the mainland, is 5 years old, and her name is Fiona Danielle Gallagher. I try to call her every morning. However, I spend so much time in court that I often miss our phone time," he said.



Gallagher



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

GUAM VISITORS

The flaming red costumes of the Inetnon Gef Pago dancers of Guam pale in comparison to their spectacular dance performances. The Guam delegation was one of the most well-applauded performers in Saturday's 29th Flame Tree Arts Festival, which ended Sunday.

2 suspected 'ice suppliers' fall

Local authorities arrested over the weekend two suspected suppliers of methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

Gu Xue Tian and Yin Bao Hong, both Chinese nationals, were arrested for trafficking of a controlled substance and possession of controlled substance.

Tian and Hong were brought to the Superior Court yesterday afternoon for a bail hearing.

Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a \$60,000 cash bail each for the defendants' temporary release.

According to court papers, authorities conducted an undercover drug sting operation

after receiving information that Tian is a major supplier of "ice" in Papago.

The Department of Public Safety has intensified its campaign against suspected "ice" dealers in the last few months, resulting in the arrest of several persons, mostly Chinese nationals. (Ferdie de la Torre)



ANNOUNCEMENT



The Republican Party of the NMI Association Announces its **General Membership Meeting**. All Republicans and individuals who wish to join the Republican Party are urged to attend this meeting.

What: **Membership Meeting**
When: **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**
Time: **6:00 pm**
Location: **Garapan Central Park**

AGENDA for General Membership Meeting

- Welcoming Remarks
- Official Endorsement of Juan N. Babauta as the GOP Candidate for U.S. Delegate
- Election of Vacant GOP Officers Positions
- Closing

Paid for by the Republican Party of the NMI Association



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-029

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Roof Coating of Rota Jr. High and Rota High School** on Rota Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 16, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee \$33.95.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 3, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Rota High School Library on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 7, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-029, and submitted with one original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 13, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement & Supply Officer

COMMUNITY BRIEFS**CCA board meets today**

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors will be convening its regular monthly meeting today, April 27, 2010, in the Department of Public Health Secretary's Conference Room 2, starting at 2pm.

The agenda will include discussion of policies, procedures, and program activities proposed during the Board's strategic planning session held on April 10; a proposed supplemental budget for 2010; reports from the program manager and accountant; briefings on the status of CCA's application for federal 501(c)(3) status, the Marianas March Against Cancer, and the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program; and opportunity for open discussion, including public comment.

All CCA Board meetings are open to the public. For more information, call 682-0050, email cca@ccamarianas.org, or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)

Police to enforce disability parking law

Effective immediately, Department of Public Safety acting Commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogunoro has assigned patrol and traffic officers to inspect all on-street and off-street disability parking spaces. Anyone parked illegally without a proper identification placard or permit will be cited, fined \$150, or their vehicle towed away at the owner's expense. (PR)

MRCDC sets meeting/teleconference

The Marianas Resource Conservation & Development Council will hold a meeting/teleconference to elect officers on Thursday, April 29, 2010, from 5pm to 6pm, at the NRCS Saipan Service Center, DY building, Beach Road in south Garapan. The public is invited. Call 671-472-7447 for more information, participation on Tinian, Rota and Guam, or special accommodation for disability. (PR)

SVES registration schedule

San Vicente Elementary School registration for school year 2010-2011 will begin on May 24, 2010, from 9am to 12pm and from 1pm to 4pm in the school's main office.

For kindergarten enrollees, the child must be 5 years on or before Aug. 31, 2005, as per BOE policy. Date of birth: between Sept. 1, 2004 and Aug. 31, 2005.

Registration requirements: Birth certificate or passport, health certificate, health/accident insurance, map of residential location, power of attorney/legal guardianship (if applicable), copy of report card, unofficial transcript with the address and phone number of the last school attended.

Kindergarten: May 24-28, 2010

1st-3rd grade: June 1-4

4th-6th grade: June 7-11

All newcomers must bring the necessary documents above. Should you have any questions, contact 237-3791. (PR)

GCA begins enrollment

Grace Christian Academy's open enrollment for

school year 2009-2010 began yesterday, April 26, 2010. Application for new students will be accepted from K4 to 12th grade. Kindergarten 4 and 5 class schedules had started running from 8am until 3pm beginning school year 2009-2010. GCA is now accepting foreign student enrollment. Enrollment packet is available at the Registrar's Office. The packet must be turned in along with all other required documents. A student is officially registered upon paying the registration fee and whose account is current. Grace Christian Academy is located at Upper Navy Hill. For more information, contact the school at 322-3320/3850 or set up an appointment to visit. (PR)

OPA staff on Rota and Tinian end of April

Staff of the Office of the Public Auditor will be on Rota on April 29 and on Tinian on April 30 to notarize and accept last-minute filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials.

Filers on Rota may visit the Rota Mayor's Office from 12:30pm to 4:30pm on April 29. Filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission conference room from 9am to 4:30pm on April 30.

All filers must bring with them some form of photo ID, such as a driver's license or a passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services.

For any inquiries or comments, contact OPA at 322-6481 or 6482. (OPA)

No WIC clinic on Rota for two days

This is to inform all Rota WIC participants that there will be no clinic on April 27 and 28, 2010. Clinic staff will be calling you to reschedule appropriately, or you may call us at 664-4084. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you. (WIC)

Kagman High calendar of activities

To all parents/guardians of Kagman High School students:

■ SAT 10 testing scheduled for April 26-28, 2010. Half-day schedule set for these days. Students will be dismissed at 1pm.

■ Junior Night set for May 11, 2010, from 5pm to 7pm at the KHS Cafeteria.

If you have any questions, call 237-3840, ask for Mr. Cabrera or Mrs. Sablan. (KHS)

Guam Labor hosts Special Challenges Job Fair

HAGATNA—The Guåhan Department of Labor, in partnership with the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council, the Guam System for Assistive Technology, and the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation hosted the first ever "Special Challenges Job Fair" yesterday, April 26, at the Agana Shopping Center. This historic day-long event was held in conjunction with President Obama's Federal Job Fair for people with disabilities scheduled for the same day in Washington, D.C.

**ANGIL DESIGN SUPPORTS THE HUMANITIES**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ron Smith of Angil Design, Inc., left, presents a donation in the amount of \$500 to the NMI Council for the Humanities. Accepting on behalf of the Council are Program Committee chair Joann T. Aquino and board chair Charles P. Reyes Jr. The Council will use the donation to support its public programs and educational initiatives.

More than a dozen employers were on hand to conduct scheduled interviews alongside representatives from over 30 public and private sector organizations who promoted their programs and services that address barriers to employment such as transportation, assistive technology, vocational rehabilitation, housing, reasonable accommodation, legal and advocacy rights and community involvement.

Contract awarded for Guam port expansion

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo announced Friday that the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration has awarded a contract for program management services for modernization and expansion projects at the Port of Guam.

MARAD will directly oversee the execution of the contract and funding will go through the Port

of Guam Enterprise Improvement Fund. Bordallo sponsored a provision that established the Port of Guam Enterprise Improvement Fund in the Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Act.

"Today's announcement by MARAD is a critical step toward modernizing and expanding the Port of Guam," Bordallo said. "MARAD's award of this contract demonstrates a commitment by the federal government to assist Guam in the modernization of the Port. The contract needed to be in place in order for MARAD to execute the \$50 million that the Department of Defense is seeking Congressional authorization to transfer. I support the Department of Defense's request and will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress to make sure that the DoD is granted this authority. I also thank Maritime Administrator David Matsuda, Governor Felix Camacho, and Enrique Agustin of the Port for their support of the Port's efforts to modernize." (PR)

**Request for Proposals
Humanities Half-Hour Radio Program**

The NMI Council for the Humanities ("Council") requires the services of an independent contractor ("Contractor") to develop and operate its weekly "Humanities Half-Hour" Radio Program ("Program").

Major Tasks to be performed by Contractor:

- (1). Develop, in consultation with Council staff, content for the Council's weekly Program. Content will consist of fifty-two (52) segments, each thirty (30) minutes in length to be broadcast on a local FM radio station. Content will include a variety of humanities-related topics which may be either live or pre-recorded. Content normally will be developed one month in advance so that details about upcoming Program segments may be announced to the public.
- (2). Coordinate with guests to ensure their participation in the Program.
- (3). Pre-record content and edit pre-existing content (digital sound files) utilizing the radio station's equipment, as may be required by Council.
- (4). Host the Program.
- (5). Prepare a brief written report at the conclusion of the contract presenting a summary of work completed and recommendations about how to improve the Program.

Qualifications

Applicants must be knowledgeable about local cultures, history and current events, and possess previous radio production experience. A working knowledge of the Council and its programs is desirable.

Proposal Submission and Evaluation

Proposals should include the applicant's qualifications, statement of approach, and a fee proposal. Proposals should be directed to Scott Russell, Executive Director, N.M.I. Council for the Humanities, Box 506437, Saipan, MP 96950 or hand delivered to the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai, Saipan. Proposals must be received by the Council no later than 4:30 pm on 30 April 2010. Selection will be based on (1). qualifications; (2). appropriateness of approach; and (3). cost. Interested individuals are invited contact Council staff at 235-4785 for additional project details.

Jewelry Auction

Seized Assets from Police Departments, IRS, U.S. Treasury & Secret Service...
...and other in violation of laws. Items bought from seized assets auctions will go up for bid with other merchandise which includes the majority of items.

Sunday, May 16, 2010
Auction: 12 Noon • Preview: 11 a.m. • Saipan World Resort

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
Certified solitaire diamonds from 1 to 7 carats. Many diamond stud earrings. A huge selection of TANZANITE jewelry for 1 to 3 carats. Rolex watches. Large selection of topaz, aquamarine, tourmaline & opal jewelry. 51 carat diamond & ruby necklace. Swiss made gold watches. ESTATE jewelry, bracelets, bangles, earrings, necklaces, rings, etc...

HUNDREDS OF PIECES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE

FREE ADMISSION

TERMS: Cash, Check, Visa, MasterCard, AMEX.
Auction not affiliated with any government agency or entity.
15% buyers premium added to hammer price. All items subject to error, omissions and withdrawal.

Roberto Galleries — State of Washington Auctioneer License #2506

AULELEI MEDICAL

Beauty services that go beyond skin deep

Aulelei.

It's the Samoan word for "beauty."

It's also the name of the newest beauty clinic in town.

Aulelei Medical, located on the third floor of Marianas Business Plaza, opened without much pomp and fanfare on Friday, April 23. For Dr. Delinda D. Wills, though, it's the start of a long-held dream—to have her own clinic where she can offer aesthetic services that go beyond palliative care.

A U.S. Board-certified general surgeon who first came to Saipan to work at the Commonwealth Health Center, Dr. Wills is clearly passionate about her new baby.

"I love skin. I love Botox. You can call me the Queen of Vain!" she exclaims with much enthusiasm.

Aulelei offers professional medical aesthetic services not being provided elsewhere. She says she is aware of facial centers in the area but they only offer palliatives and no actual treatment takes place. "I noticed that there are no [establishments] that offer aesthetic services here," Dr. Wills said.

And since she herself is keen on



CLARISSA DAVID

Dr. Delinda Wills inside the newly opened Aulelei Medical Clinic. Aulelei is a Samoan word meaning "beauty."

aesthetic services, it was just the thing for her idea of a clinic.

Dr. Wills guarantees skin assessment and treatment for all

CONTACT INFO

Tel: (670) 235-7314

Web: www.auleleimmedical.com

patients. Skin problems such as acne, oily or dry skin, hyperpigmentation, melasma, and rosacea can be addressed by Dr. Wills at Aulelei. Likewise, Aulelei carries Botox and PCA skincare lines to be used to treat all patients.

Many a patient would find it amusing, perhaps even unusual, to find a doctor doing the duties of a receptionist, cashier, designer (Dr. Wills designed her own cupboard and arranged the interior of the clinic), and webmaster. But running a one-woman show at her clinic serves a purpose.

"Having to do all of it is challenging. But I value confidentiality. I take all calls, schedule all my appointments. I respect the privacy of my patients," said the Louisiana-born and bred physician. "The cost of aesthetic meds is very high, and it helps to keep the overhead low so that I can provide services that are affordable."

Now that the clinic's just opened, Dr. Wills already made six appointments. Not bad for a newly opened clinic, really. But Dr. Wills already preps herself

this early. "It's gonna take a while before I see any profit. I hope for success to come but I can be patient with it."

Aulelei Medical is located at Suite 315 of Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe. For inquiries or appointments, call (670) 235-7314. You can also check the Web site www.auleleimmedical.com.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Birthday greetings going out to Tony LG. Cruz, who is celebrating his birthday today, April 27, 2010. God bless you and may you have a wonderful blast on your day. Best wishes coming from your wife Val and your two fishermen boys.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 27, 1999

Independent agencies look for funds

Government independent agencies have been knocking on the doors of the Legislature for additional funds in fear the lower budget proposed by the administration under the Fiscal Year 2000 spending package may wipe out their operations. Rep. Karl T. Reyes, chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, said these agencies have extended "verbal request," asking them to meet with him to tackle the funding shortfall. The independent programs, like the Manhoben Center and Karidat, are operating on a "skeletal" budget, and a decrease in the spending limit would hamper their services, according to Reyes.

April 27, 2000

Tinian mayor justifies trip to Taipei

Tinian Mayor Francisco Borja yesterday underscored the need to nourish the island's economy which necessitated his trip to Taiwan with other municipal officials and Dynasty Hotel and Casino executives. Mr. Borja said the trip was taken to show Tinian's support for the business deal reached between the Dynasty and the Taipei-based Mandarin Air for the provision of charter flights between Taiwan and the Northern Marianas. "Showing support for the business deal simply means that we wanted to impress upon our new investors that it is indeed important that they decided to invest millions of dollars into the CNMI," he said in a press statement.

New hearing panel eyed to resolve Hopwood woes

The Public School System may be asked to form a new hearing panel to resolve the growing conflict at the controversy-riddled Hopwood Jr. High School, if the mediation committee fails to come up with a decision that will be acceptable to the warring groups. The petitioners can appeal their case before the Board of Education if the decision of acting Deputy Commissioner of Administration Louise Concepcion failed to satisfy them.

April 27, 2001

CUC: No power rate adjustments

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation yesterday denied reports it will increase power rates in the Northern Marianas. It said adjustment of charges pass through a legitimate process that would allow the public to comment on any proposed rate changes. During a recent CUC Board of Directors meeting, Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez presented a financial report that indicated a loss in operating funds due primarily to increasing fuel bills, the CNMI Government debt of \$12 million, and increased expenses related to negotiations for a power plant.

Scrutiny on proposed FY2002 budget begins

Legislators will ask department heads and agency officials to justify proposed appropriations for each government office submitted under Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's proposed budget for the financial year 2002. The House of Representatives officially acknowledged the receipt of the governor's FY2002 budget proposal amounting to \$229 million, up from the previous year's \$221.66 million. House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Antonio Camacho said all department heads will be asked to provide the Legislature reports on sources of funds to expedite budget discussion.

April 27, 2003

\$1.4M to prepare NMI vs terror

The CNMI justified to its national counterparts how it plans to make use of the \$1.4 million domestic preparedness allocation that the local Homeland Security office is expecting for fiscal year 2003. Homeland Security Advisor Jerry Crisostomo confirmed Friday that the CNMI's draft plan has already been submitted to the Office of Domestic Preparedness, one of the agencies under the Homeland Security Department. "The money is there. We're just waiting for them to approve the plan. Hopefully, we can hear something by the end of May or June because the application deadline was April 19 or 20," said Crisostomo.

'ADA requirements misconstrued'

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities recently issued a clarification on what it describes as a misunderstanding of the intent and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities executive director Thomas J. Camacho said that, first of the all, the ADA is not some building code law but a civil rights law for persons with disabilities patterned after the Civil Rights Act. Camacho said that persons or entities doing business in the CNMI are all covered by the law, including stores and shops, restaurants and bars, service establishments, theaters, hotels, recreation facilities, private museums and schools and others.

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB10-OHS-095
Submission Date: May 13, 2010 • Time: 10:30 a.m.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) DESKTOP COMPUTERS FOR THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ PATRICK J. TENORIO
Special Assistant for Homeland Security

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Northern Mariana Islands
RETIREMENT FUND
PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its Regular meeting Friday, April 30, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tinian Dynasty (Tinian Room), Tinian.

AGENDA

<p>I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS</p> <p>A. Call to Order</p> <p>B. Roll Call</p> <p>1. October 15, 2009</p> <p>2. February 22-24, 2010</p> <p>3. April 12, 2010</p> <p>II. PUBLIC COMMENTS</p> <p>III. REPORTS</p> <p>A. Report of the Chairman</p> <p>1. ROC No. 10-007</p> <p>B. Report of the Administrator / Deputy Administrator</p> <p>1. ROA No. 10-007</p> <p>2. Accounting Report</p> <p>a) NMI Retirement Fund</p> <p>b) GHLITF</p> <p>c) WCC</p> <p>3. Drawdown Requests</p> <p>4. Other Administrator Status / Updates</p> <p>a) Policies, Programs, and/or Legislative</p> <p>C. Reports of the Committees</p> <p>1. Operations, Personnel & Review Committee</p> <p>2. Finance & Investment Committee</p> <p>3. Special Committee</p> <p>D. Report of the Investment Director (Deputy Administrator)</p> <p>1. Status of Investments</p> <p>2. Report of the Housing Loan Program</p>	<p>E. Report of the Internal Auditor</p> <p>F. Communications</p> <p>1. Other Reports</p> <p>IV. LEGAL MATTERS</p> <p>A. Reports of the Legal Counsels and Administrative Hearing Officer</p> <p>1. Report of the Board Counsel</p> <p>a) Lawsuit</p> <p>i) Report of the Post Judgment Negotiation Panel</p> <p>b) Other Legal Matters</p> <p>2. Report of the In-House Counsel</p> <p>a) Update on Administrative Appeals</p> <p>3. Report of the Hearing Officer</p> <p>V. OLD BUSINESS</p> <p>A. MHL Program (Reopen Status)</p> <p>B. MHL - Bank Pacific</p> <p>C. RFP 10-002 Investment Consultant</p> <p>VI. NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>A. Disability Applicants</p> <p>1. Case No. 09-003</p> <p>B. Autonomous Agencies ER Status/Action</p> <p>VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>VIII. MISCELLANEOUS / OTHER MATTERS</p> <p>A. Announcements</p> <p>B. Next Meeting</p> <p>C. Adjournment</p> <p>/s/ SIXTO K. IGISOMAR Chairman, Board Of Trustees</p>
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Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the Saipan Tribune, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.

If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



The person in last week's column was identified as former Trust Territory Deputy High Commissioner Juan Atalig Sablan "Kappun." He was identified by Remedios Cangco, Cecilia Lifofoi, Ana S. Teregeyo, Francisco A. Hocog, Joe Kani, Judge David Wiseman, Pete Igitol, Tony A. Benavente, Mary Sablan, Jose A. Manalo, Joaquin R. Lizama, Rita Cabrera, Isaac Calvo, Vicky T. Deleon Guerrero, Chong Torres, Angie Sablan, Jesus Mendiola, Dianna M. Quitugua, Jesse Pangelinan, Bobbie Grizzard, and Angie M. Villagomez.

Emmanuel College graduate passes NCLEX

Another graduate of Emmanuel College has become the fourth individual from the institution to successfully pass the national licensure examination for nurses on her first attempt.

Cheng Huan (Blanco), 27, originally from Shenyang China, first came to the island on a student visa. In her desire to become a full-fledged nurse she



Cheng Huan

2009. From then on, the student devoted her time preparing for

enrolled in Emmanuel College's 11-month course, which she completed in August

the examination, which she took last April 23.

She said yesterday it was "satisfying" to receive the notice from the nursing board that she passed the exam. Cheng Huan told *Saipan Tribune* that it was really her desire to help people that truly motivated her to pursue a nursing course.

She described the 11-month

course at Emmanuel College as challenging but fulfilling and plans to work at the Commonwealth Health Center. She has not ruled out pursuing higher

education in the future.

The first student from Emmanuel College to pass the NCLEX was Sarah Jane Santos, who made it in May 2009. She

was later joined by Jian Teng who made it in June last year. Last month, Cheng Huan's former classmate, Xiao Hua Yuan, also passed the test.

Emmanuel College is expected to open a new season for the next batch of students this summer. *(Moneth Deposa)*

Public library expands Bookmobile services

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is expanding outreach efforts and bringing its Bookmobile and Homework Center services to children and parents in various villages in the community.

Our goal is to bring general library services directly to students who are struggling with their homework or who are having transportation difficulty accessing [the library] in order to have the opportunity to borrow books and related

multimedia library materials off site at designated partner schools, youth centers, and community centers in various villages, said the library in a statement.

The opportunity to integrate bookmobile and homework assistance services is part of the 2009 Competitive Grant for the Pacific that JKPL receives and has reapplied for. JKPL rules and procedures will remain and be applicable to outreach ser-

vices, including application for library cards by children and teenagers through their parents and/or guardians, accessing library materials only through library cards, imposition of fines and fees for late, damaged, or lost materials, registration to participate in availing homework assistance after school at each site, etc.

For more information, call the main telephone number at 235-READ (7323) or 7322. *(PR)*

SCHEDULED DAYS AND HOURS FOR THE BOOKMOBILE:

Mondays JKPL is closed

Tuesday:	1pm - 3pm	Tanapag Elem. School
	3pm - 5pm	GTC Elem. School (Matansa-San Roque)
Wednesday:	2pm - 4pm	DYS Shelter & Juvenile Detention Facility (Kagman)
Thursdays:	1pm - 3pm	Tanapag Elem. School
	3pm - 5pm	GTC Elem. School (Matansa-San Roque)

Non-government payday Fridays

1pm - 3pm Koblerville Elem. School

Government payday Fridays

2pm - 3:30pm San Antonio Elem. School
5pm - 8pm Puengin Inetnon - Kagman Community Center

Saturdays: 9am - 10:30am ChaCha Jr. High School - Kagman
11am - 1pm Tanapag Youth Center



CAREER WEEK

NMC

Northern Marianas College staff and CNMI law enforcement personnel pose for a group photo after receiving certificates of appreciation for participating in NMC's Career Week. Representatives from the CNMI Department of Public Safety, CNMI Board of Parole, and the CNMI Office of Probation were part of a panel discussion that focused on their experiences in the field of law enforcement and the different career opportunities in law enforcement for students. The aim of NMC Career Week is to assist current and graduating students of the College find rewarding jobs by exposing students to available options in the job market today. Seated from left is Officer Jason Tarkong (DPS), Officer Regino Celis (DPS), and Officer Melvin Sakisat (Parole). Standing from left is NMC Student Support Services Counselor Neda Camacho, NMC Community Development Institute Program Coordinator Les Ogumoro-Uludong, Officer Eric David (DPS), Officer Simram Simram (Probation), Chief Lee Guerrero (Parole), Officer John Santos (Parole), NMC Career Services Program Manager Heather Santos, and Officer Lianna Peters (Parole).



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW 10-RFP-010

DESIGN BUILD OF SOLAR AND WIND POWERED SYSTEM AT THE ENERGY OFFICE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals for the Design Build of Solar and Wind Powered System at the Energy Office, Capitol Hill on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. However, Article 7, "Local Business", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funding for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 4-102 of the Procurement Regulations.

Any corporation or partnership "firm" must have or obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Board of Professional Licensing (CNMI BOPL). Individuals and/or sole proprietors are required to possess a valid professional license issued by the CNMI BOPL.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after April 20, 2010 at the DPW, Energy Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Energy Office, Capitol Hill on April 30, 2010. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time May 14, 2010.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (resumes and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor or another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and Background of the Company- 40%;
2. Past experience of the contractor on design builds projects and successfully completions- 15%;
3. Capability and ability to perform the work and completed within the time frame- 10%; and
4. Costs- 35%

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW10-RFP-010". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, May 19, 2010. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, May 19, 2010 and may be transmitted via Facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, May 19, 2010 and must be received no later than May 28, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

Performance time for completion of this project is Once Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per working days for delays beyond the established completion date.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made, therefore, negotiation shall be conducted with the highest qualified firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. The successful proposers will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

This project is funded in Whole from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 through the U.S. Department of Energy. The Contractor shall ensure all ARRA requirements are met in a timely manner.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ SIXTO IGISOMOR
Acting Secretary of Commerce

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ THELMA B INOS
Director, Energy Division

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BID

CUC-IFB-10-029

(Re-Bid of CUC -IFB-10-019)

SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR LIGHT VEHICLE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids from vendors to supply fuel for CUC's light vehicle and heavy equipment on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. CUC requires diesel and unleaded gasoline to be available twenty-four (24) hours a day and during emergency situations.

The Scope-of-Work may be picked up at CUC, Procurement & Supply Office at Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "IFB-10-029, Supply of Fuel for Light Vehicle and Heavy Equipment" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than April 28, 2010 at 10:00 AM (CHST) local time**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All Bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing, no later than April 26, 2010, 10:00 AM (CHST), local time, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer, via email at msablan@cucgov.net and Mrs. Deborah Fisher, CUC Legal Counsel at attorney.fisher@gmail.com.

/s/ DEBORAH FISHER
Legal Counsel

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Asst. Exec. Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

NASA reboot

Last week Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon, released an open letter to President Barack Obama, the first Trekkie in the White House.

The former astronaut is riled because Obama canceled a planned 2020 U.S. moon mission and yanked NASA funding for the rocket that was supposed to take astronauts there.

Obama intends to outsource some of the spacecraft business to commercial space companies, which he thinks are more innovative, nimble and cost-conscious than NASA.

Armstrong warned that pulling the plug on the rocket program, called Constellation, dooms the United States to a "long downhill slide to mediocrity." Without the ability to loft humans into orbit for many years to come, he wrote, the United States is destined to become a "second- or even third-rate" space power.

Sorry, Neil. But that's one giant leap ... of unwarranted pessimism.

Obama is charting a fresh course for American space exploration that is grounded in reality.

Reality 1: The president scrapped the project because a special panel of experts—including aerospace industry heavyweights and two former astronauts—said NASA was building the wrong rocket for the wrong destination (the moon).

Reality 2: Constellation was over budget, behind schedule, and according to the federal Office of Management and Budget, "lacking in innovation due to a failure to invest in critical new technologies."

Reality 3: Private commercial space companies already are injecting long-needed competition into a field dominated by huge aerospace contractors.

One of those entrepreneurs, SpaceX exec Elon Musk, is building a Falcon 9 rocket that he says can blast American astronauts to the space station for about \$20 million—less than half what NASA now pays. Let's see if he can deliver.

Musk, who co-founded PayPal, told us that one of the most vital innovations for the space program would be to scrap NASA's system of guaranteeing contractors a profit beyond whatever costs they run up. That just guarantees companies will find the most expensive way to do something and then milk it for as long as possible. "It's Economics 101," he says.

Are you listening, NASA?

With the U.S. space shuttle program set to be mothballed in the fall, Armstrong and some of his fellow ex-astronauts also are perturbed that Americans will need to hitch a ride from the Russians—at \$55 million a ticket—to reach the international space station.

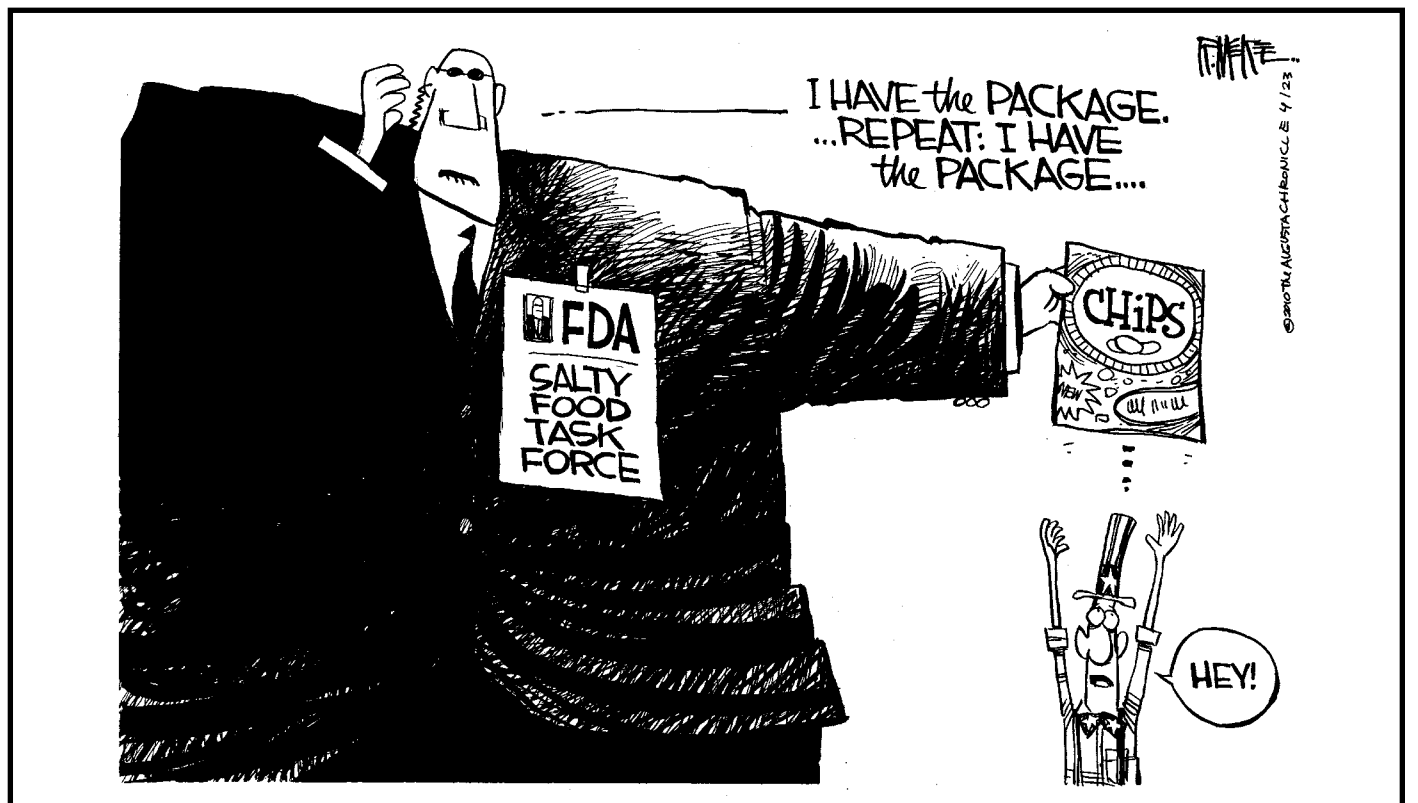
But so what? Exactly how much earth-shattering science is going on there? (Hint: Not much so far.) Sure, the toilets often need to be fixed, but that's a mighty expensive plumbing call.

Obama's space plan still may come crashing back to Earth. Some lawmakers in Congress are balking at cutting Constellation because it means the loss of thousands of aerospace jobs in politically important states such as Florida, Texas and California.

Job cuts are painful, but Obama needs to remind lawmakers of the flip side: The president's NASA reboot helps a powerful new commercial space industry that could yield thousands of new high-tech jobs. It could allow America to leapfrog light-years ahead of the competition.

Obama's plan is NASA's best chance for another giant leap into the cosmos. Congress needs to make it so.

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Why a pension obligation bond guaranteed by the Fund may not be in the best interest of retirees

A few questions and issues awaiting a just and fair solution

A message to interested retirees: In this two-part series I attempt to introduce some of the basic elements of bond financing about which there has been some discussion as a possible solution to the dire situation facing the Retirement Fund. In part No. 2 I raise a red flag of caution to the thousands of members of the Fund, surviving spouses and dependent children and encourage they carefully monitor the activities of the central government, the Legislature and Fund officials as efforts are made to solve the government's financial obligation to defined benefit plan members and all others who are presently retired from the NMI or expect to retire in the future. I encourage those interested to write letters to the editor expressing your thoughts and opinions on the issues introduced in this two-part article.

A little understanding about bonds

Retirees are beginning to hear suggestions about pension obligation bonds with the sum of \$200 million tossed around. Why \$200 million I don't know when the government's debt to the Fund is about \$280 million and increasing daily.

A bond is a debt security in which the authorized issuer (for example, either the NMI central government or the Retirement Fund) would owe the holders (purchasers) of the bond a debt including interest depending on the terms of the bond, and would be obliged to pay interest and pay off the principal when due upon maturity at a later date. Simply stated, a bond is a formal contract to repay borrowed money with interest at fixed intervals.

Personally, I wouldn't be opposed to a NMI government bond "bailout" for the debt owed to Retirement Fund members as long as such financing does not in any way have any portion of the money presently owed and due defined benefit plan (DBP) members—either now or in the future—encumbered, pledged or entangled in any way by providing such obligated funds as a guarantee for repayment to bond holders. Thus, the term pension obligation bond should not be used in my opinion to refer to the government's "bailout"; rather, it should be a "government obligation bond."

It's worth keeping in mind that the Retirement Fund does not generate the employer's contribution—by law the central government does, or should. So with this in mind, how could the Fund be expected to pledge this source of revenue in any guarantee to support the issuance of a bond? It can't—and it shouldn't since it doesn't generate the money.

As for the government's employed DBP member's individual private monetary contribution through their payroll deductions to-

By WILLIAM H. STEWART

Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.



ward their future retirement, how can the central government legally obligate this source of funds as bond repayment guarantee since it isn't the government's money? Any bond guarantee must be a NMI central government guarantee and nothing else.

I have been around long enough to have witnessed many government efforts which were never fully thought through only to later reveal flawed reasoning. Let's hope that the bond issue doesn't turn out to be one of the defective efforts.

Just look back at the many amendments to the myriad of laws previously passed and the amendments to the amended amendments that were necessary. My dear sweet granny's wry observation comes to mind: "Billy, If you think the problem is bad now just wait until the attempt to solve it."

For the NMI central government to require the Retirement Fund to guarantee payment of a bond to compensate for its own lack of acceptance of its fiducial responsibility in the past is to shift responsibility from the central government to the members of the Fund. The government itself should provide any guarantee that may be required.

For the NMI central government to require the Retirement Fund to guarantee payment of a bond to compensate for its own lack of acceptance of its fiducial responsibility in years past is to shift responsibility from the central government to the members of the Fund. The government itself should provide any guarantee that may be required. Since the Fund is dependent upon the government for employer's contribution and other dedicated revenue sources, imagine what would happen if the Fund was required to guarantee a bond and then witness the above government payments to the Fund cease (as has occurred so

often in the past). The Fund would be left holding the "bond bag" and forced to liquidate its portfolio and other assets to service its indebtedness and make good the guarantee to bond holders and eventually be forced to declare bankruptcy. Goodbye pensions.

In my view it doesn't make sense to obligate DBP members by forcing them to pay the bondholder's interest on the very money said members use to guarantee the bond! If this wouldn't be similar to the mirror in Alice In Wonderland, I'll be a "monkey's uncle."

For those interested in learning a bit of the basics of bonds—they are simply loan agreements used to provide financing for a borrower (e.g., the NMI government) and interest income for a lender.

See PENSION on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Four years and a day

“Nothing in [the CNRA] shall be construed to make any residence or presence in the Commonwealth before [Nov. 28, 2009] residence or presence in the United States, except that, **for the purpose only of determining whether an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence...has abandoned or lost such status by reason of absence from the United States**, such alien’s presence in the Commonwealth before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act shall be considered to be presence in the United States.” *Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, U.S. Public Law 110-229, Section 705(c)*. (Emphasis added.)

Last week we discussed citizenship through the Section 301 of the Covenant. Another critical part of the Covenant for immigration purposes, Section 506, provided that the CNMI was part of the U.S. for very limited purposes under the Immigration & Nationality Act, INA. One of those purposes was that the INA applied in full to “aliens who are immediate relatives...of United States citizens who are permanently residing in the Northern Mariana Islands.” That is, the spouses and unmarried children under 21 of U.S. citizens living in the CNMI could become U.S. lawful permanent residents, LPRs, and, eventually, U.S. citizens, USCs, despite the fact the CNMI was considered outside the United States for all other immigration purposes.

Other LPRs (“green card” holders) lived in the CNMI, too. These LPRs had moved here on their own without their USC immediate relatives, or were the LPR surviving spouses of USCs, or were children who became LPRs but then “aged out” of immediate relative status by turning 21, or for any other reason did not qualify under Section 506. Since at least the mid-1990s, the CNMI government treated these LPRs the same as USCs (except for USC-restricted matters such as voting), allowing them to live and work freely in the CNMI. These LPRs often had problems when they tried to “re-enter” Guam, Hawaii or the mainland U.S. They all had problems when they applied to become naturalized as U.S. citizens.

PENSION

From Page 10

Often referred to as a “security,” they have a fixed yield (income for the bond holder) and obligate the borrower to pay interest on the amount of the loan, referred to as the principal. The principal is paid in full by the borrower at maturity. Until then, the borrower makes interest payments to the lender. The rate at which interest is paid on the bond is essentially the cost of obtaining the loan.

Most bonds are issued by governments or corporations. Usually an underwriter such as, for example, an investment banking firm similar to Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley and others which provides the borrower with the full amount of the financing being sought, buying all the bonds issued and then reselling them to investors at a profit on the open market. Bonds can have other features depending on the terms of the financing. “Callable” bonds allow the borrower to pay the principal and therefore retire the bond before the maturity date, limiting the interest income to the bond holder. A “putable” bond is the reverse, where a bond holder can demand early payment of the principal, and forego future interest (coupon) payments.

For the bondholder, who in reality probably couldn’t care less about your pension, a bond is an investment, and therefore the terms of the bond will depend on the creditworthiness of the borrower. A higher risk entity (as possibly the NMI) will be required to pay a higher yield to the bondholder. Cities, counties and states also issue debt, called municipal bonds, to finance local improvements or other specific areas of their budget. These bonds are paid off by some form of locally generated revenue from fees or taxes. Debt issued by the lowest-rated entities, with the highest default risk, is called “junk” and carries the highest yield (rate) for the lender and a higher cost to the borrower.

To be continued.

Next: Why The NMI government should be the entity to guarantee any required pension bond—and not the retirees or their Fund

Editor’s note: This, and tomorrow’s continuation, is the 5th article in an intermittent series published in this paper concerning different issues related to bond financing. The other titles and dates are as follows and can be reviewed in our archives: “What’s The Possibility of Bond Financing For The Retirement Fund?”, Oct. 24, 2008; “Bond Financing for Fund—Bad Idea”, March 6, 2009; “A Few Thoughts On Evaluating Pension Obligation Bonds,” 2 Parts, March 18 & 19, 2010; “The Retirement Fund—What A Difference Nine Years Made—or Did It?” and “Another Look at Pension Obligation Bonds,” April 16, 2010.

Inside-Outside: Covenant Section 506 and CNRA Section 705(c)

The Consolidated Natural Resources Act, CNRA, repealed Covenant Section 506, but Section 506 was good law through last Nov. 27. When we need to decide whether an LPR can apply for naturalization, we still look to Section 506 to determine whether the LPR was “inside” or “outside” the U.S. for immigration purposes prior to Nov. 28. For any LPR residing in the CNMI, who was the immediate relative of a CNMI-resident USC on Nov. 28, the answer is a no-brainer, an unqualified “yes.” For others—surviving immediate relatives of USCs, LPRs who moved to the CNMI on their own and not as immediate relatives, etc.—the answer is sometimes “maybe,” and more often “not yet.” Here’s why.

Every LPR who, before Nov. 28, lived in the CNMI without meeting the Covenant’s definition of immediate relative of a U.S. citizen residing in the CNMI was considered to be “outside” the U.S. for purposes of maintaining permanent resident status, and for naturalization. The CNRA, in Section 705(c), “cured” any defects in permanent residence for those LPRs, assuring that they would not be considered to have abandoned or otherwise lost LPR status on the ground that they were “outside” the U.S.

When we first read Section 705(c), we assumed that it meant not only that these LPRs’ permanent residence was preserved, but that their time in the CNMI prior to Nov. 28 counted toward naturalization. Unfortunately, a close reading of the statute shows that it is more likely that the U.S. Congress intended only to preserve LPRs’ status as a matter of fairness, and not to provide a basis for naturalization based on pre-Nov. 28 residence in the CNMI for LPRs who did not qualify as “inside” the U.S. under the Covenant. USCIS has taken this narrow, more restrictive interpretation of the statute.

The good news: Prior residence in the CNMI doesn’t disrupt residence

So what does this mean? The good news is that every LPR who resided in the CNMI before Nov. 28, 2009, and who continues to reside here, is still in good standing as an LPR, all other things being equal. If you are an LPR and your “green card” expired years ago, you need only file Form I-90 to obtain a new card. From the perspective of USCIS, your status as an LPR is maintained from your admission date until now.

The bad news: Long naturalization delays

The first bad news is that the time most of these LPRs spent in the CNMI will not be deemed either physical presence or residence in the U.S. for purposes of naturalization. The general rule for naturalization is that an LPR must reside continuously in the U.S. for five years after admission as an LPR; the residence requirement is only three years if you became an LPR on the basis of marriage, and remain married. In addition, an LPR applying for naturalization must also show that he or she has been physically present in the U.S. for at least 30 months of the five years preceding the application date.

What happens to the LPR who has lost his or her time by staying outside the U.S. for too long? An LPR subject to the five-year rule, whose continuous residence has been broken, must wait to file for naturalization for four years and a day after returning to the U.S. For the majority of the non-immediate relative LPRs described in to-

Letter to the Editor

A religious take on sharing

Mr. Bennett ought to know that the indigenous people hail from a culture of reciprocity. Specifically, it is inherent in our communal culture of sharing that has allowed the perpetuation of our people to exist and muddle through thick and thin since time immemorial.

If you have any sense of the Five Books, especially Deuteronomy, you would have found that Moses was mandated by the Lord to mobilize the Israelites from Egypt to the land across the Red Sea. The point is simple: The Lord allowed the Israelites sole landownership of such land. Reiterating this point: Landownership was strictly limited to their descendants.

So “sharing” in the context that you have presented is ill navigated. Sharing is inherent in the local culture. We even share food stamps especially in these dismally bad economic times. So stop trying to preach what is fully in practice in the indigenous cultural traditions of our people.

John S. DelRosario Jr.
As Gonno, Saipan

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By **MAYA KARA** and **BRUCE MAILMAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

day’s column, that means four years and a day from Nov. 28, 2009; that is, until Nov. 29, 2013. If the LPR is only subject to the three-year continuous residence requirement, then the delay is two years and one day.

If an LPR has the necessary continuous residence but not the “30 month” minimum physical presence before filing his or her naturalization application, then the mandatory application delay will not be under the “four years and a day” rule. Instead, the LPR will be required to spend at least 30 months and a day “inside” before applying. A concrete example: a friend of ours is a citizen of a European country, and has been an LPR for decades. In the early part of the 2000s she moved to Saipan by herself, and lived here for about three years, then moved to Guam and applied for naturalization. She easily satisfied the five-year residence rule, but had not lived “inside” for 30 months of the previous five years. She was told to wait 30 months (two and a half years) and a day, and then apply again.

More bad news: A threat to family unity

A number of the LPRs who consult us about naturalization want to expedite the process so that once they become USCs they can apply for spouses and children to become LPRs without any delay. Immigrant visas are immediately available for the immediate relatives of USCs, but for immediate relatives of LPRs the delay before a visa is available can be quite long. The Department of State’s Visa Bulletin (http://travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/bulletin/bulletin_4805.html) for May shows that the government is currently processing Preference Category 2A (spouses and children of LPRs) visas for immediate relatives of Chinese and Filipino citizens, for example, that were filed on Dec. 1, 2006. For those immediate relatives of LPRs who linger in legacy CNMI immigration status, and who may not qualify for any other U.S. visa, the delay poses a real threat to continued family unity. Many of them may not be able to apply for a green card before the end of the transition period. We hope that this issue will be addressed and resolved by USCIS before it is too late.

What are the general requirements for naturalization?

It may be helpful to readers for us to briefly summarize the naturalization rules. Subject to various exceptions, to be eligible for naturalization an applicant must (a) be 18 years old (except for certain adoptees and derivative beneficiaries); (b) be an LPR; (c) have resided continuously in the U.S. for at least five years after becoming an LPR (three years for marriage-based permanent residence); (d) have been physically present in the U.S. for at least 30 of the 60 months immediately preceding the application filing date; (e) have lived in the state or USCIS district having jurisdiction over the applicant’s actual residence (f) have resided continuously in the U.S. between the application date and actual naturalization; (g) have good moral character; and (h) not be a military deserter or draft evader.






We will discuss “good moral character,” special rules for the military and for students, special cases and other exceptions to the naturalization rules another time. Today’s column focuses on the requirements of continuous residence and physical presence. The CNRA cures any defects in continuous presence but it does not affect physical presence. They aren’t the same, and that’s the problem. Most green card holders living in the CNMI, who were not also the immediate relatives of CNMI-resident USCs before Nov. 28, will need to wait four years and a day, after Nov. 28, 2009, before qualifying for naturalization.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by e-mail to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Sunny	▲90 ▼73
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼78
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼75
Pohnpei	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼77
Kosrae	Rain	▲85 ▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲86 ▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Thundershowers	▲68 ▼61
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲56 ▼42
Hong Kong	Showers	▲74 ▼68
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼72
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲66 ▼52
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲75 ▼56
Manila	Thundershowers	▲92 ▼84
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲62 ▼52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼69
New York	Showers	▲55 ▼48
Osaka	Rain	▲61 ▼53
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲71 ▼49
Pusan	Showers	▲61 ▼46
Rome	Rain	▲69 ▼53
Salem	Showers	▲63 ▼49
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲62 ▼55
Seoul	Showers	▲53 ▼44
Tokyo	Rain	▲58 ▼57
Washington, DC	Showers	▲69 ▼54

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
12:21 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
6:07 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
1:01 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
7:27 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N158E to 19N150E then continues westward as a nearly stationary front to end near 21N130E. Cloudiness and patchy rain are found along and up to 300 miles northwest of the cold front and up to 500 miles north of the stationary front. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers over the Republic of Palau within 75 miles of a line from 8N134E to 4N136E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring in Yap and Chuuk states within 150 miles of a line from 8N143E to 7N151E. A surface trough extends southeastward from near Kosrae at 5N161E to end near Tarawa at EQ174E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present within 75 miles of the trough axis. A trade-wind disturbance is centered near 4N180. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are taking place east of a line from 7N177E to 2N177E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Thursday	5:55 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	5:54 AM	6:34 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:35 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:21 PM	4:28 AM
Wednesday	6:20 PM	5:14 AM
Thursday	7:20 PM	6:02 AM
Friday	8:19 PM	6:53 AM
Saturday	9:16 PM	7:47 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.
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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM					GUAM-ROTA (ROP)				
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5		C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7	
SAIPAN-GUAM					GUAM-SAIPAN				
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily		C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily	
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily		C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily	
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily	
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily		C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily		C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily	
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily		C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily		DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily	
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily		DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily	
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily		DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5		OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1		OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7	
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7		OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6		FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6		CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN		OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN					via ICN	
OZ606/703	2:20am	11:00pm	1 via ICN		OZ706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS	
OZ606/703	2:50am	11:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM	
					OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ608/705	3:20am	12:10am+1	1, 5 via PUS		OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM		PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau		C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau	
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM		C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG					HONG KONG-SAIPAN				
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN		OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN					via ICN	
OZ606/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
C09603/909	3:05am	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM					via ICN	
					OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
					OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
					C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM	
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Congress, WH recognize anniversary of Serve America Act

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate and President Barack Obama took note of the first anniversary of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act last week. The President issued a proclamation to officially mark National Volunteer Week and to reiterate his Administration's commitment to "ushering in a new era of service and responsibility."

Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) introduced Senate Resolution 495 recognizing the anniversary of the Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13) and encouraging "every person in the United States to continue to

answer the call to serve."

The House leadership selected U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) to be the floor manager for debate on a similar measure, House Resolution 1276, saluting volunteerism and community service, and the Kennedy Act anniversary. The resolution passed the House by voice vote following the debate.

Last year, Sablan was one of the 12 original co-sponsors of the Serve America Act, which is now increasing opportunities for volunteers throughout our nation. AmeriCorps, for instance, is on track to expand from 75,000 to 250,000 volunteers by 2014. Sablan was

also in attendance for the signing of the Act into law by the President. It was one of the last public events attended by the bill's namesake, the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy, who was battling a brain tumor.

"For many Americans, including my constituents in the Northern Mariana Islands," Sablan told the House, "service is the most valuable way for them to contribute to their communities."

"The Serve America Act encourages all Americans—from at-risk youth in inner cities, to people in rural communities, to people in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, to seniors and veterans—to unite in service to

their communities.

"This is the universal quality of service that Martin Luther King spoke about when he said, 'Everyone can be great because anyone can serve.'"

Also speaking in favor of the House Resolution 1276 was U.S. Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL), who said, "Regardless of one's age or background, education or interests, experience or abilities, every American should have the chance to serve because all have something to contribute to the greater good."

Biggert quoted Albert Einstein: "A person starts to live when he can live outside himself."

House Judiciary Commit-

tee chair John Conyers (D-MI) was another member Sablan gave time to during the debate. Conyers invoked his friendship with Kennedy. "My friend, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, came from a family with a long legacy of serving our country. Today, we take time to honor his memory, his outstanding commitment to the public service, and this final legislative triumph."

The Serve America Act expands many of the current service programs, including AmeriCorps, which is working to

fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, and strengthen community groups.

"I strongly believe that our people are our most important and best resource, and engaging them in service puts that resource to work for the good of the community as a whole," Sablan said. "I have seen the benefits, in my home in the Northern Mariana Islands, to the recipient of service and the volunteer alike, and I know that it is a rewarding experience for both, one that strengthens the ties of our community." (PR)



Sablan



COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Ed Arriola, Jr., of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, center, poses for a photo at the Northern Marianas College Foundation Open Golf Tournament Sponsors' Cocktail Reception with, from left, Foundation directors Ivan Quichocho and Joanna Pai, Foundation president Ben Babauta, and NMC Board of Regents chair Janet H. King. The reception was held on April 23, a day before golfers met on the links of Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort for the Foundation's 8th Annual Open.

NMC



LAULAU DONATION

Yun "Alex" Kim, left, president and chief financial officer of Saipan LauLau Development, Inc., which operates the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort in Kagman, turns over a \$10,000 check to Manta Ray Band conductor William Dewitt, center, on Monday, April 12, 2010, to help defray the cost for the band's trip to Carnegie Hall in New York City.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Images Saipan is major sponsor of MMAC

Images Saipan, Ltd. has been named a major sponsor of the 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer. Images Saipan, Ltd. is a professional photography business owned and operated by Dr. Jack Hardy.

Images Saipan, Ltd. has been providing annual support to the Marianas March Against Cancer by supplying expert photographic services throughout the MMAC event and other events sponsored by the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

"The 2010 MMAC committee expresses their sincere appreciation to Dr. Jack Hardy and Images Saipan, Ltd. for their staunch support in the fight against cancer. Dr. Hardy is not only a senior adviser to the 2010 MMAC committee, he is a gifted photographer who provides his expert services as part of his sponsorship agree-

ment," said 2010 MMAC public relations committee chair Christopher A. Concepcion.

The 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer will be held on May 14-15 from 6pm to 6am at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao. There are 14 teams competing in the largest cancer fundraising event in the CNMI.

"Please come down to the 2010 MMAC with your friends and family...and enjoy live entertainment, great food, fun games and other fundraising activities being conducted by all 14 teams. One hundred percent of funds raised will be spent locally on cancer related projects so your support is badly needed," said Concepcion.

Luminaries are currently being sold by all 14 teams for only \$5 each.

"I encourage everyone in our community to purchase a luminary to honor a loved one who has survived or is currently battling cancer or to remember someone who has lost the fight against this deadly disease. Luminaries can be purchased for a mother, father, wife, husband, grandfather, grandmother, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, cousin or friend. Each name will be printed on the individual luminary and will be lit the entire event," said 2010 luminary chair Catherine Attao-Toves. For more luminary information, e-mail attao20@yahoo.com.

Title sponsors for 2010 MMAC are the Bank of Guam, Delta Air Lines, DFS Saipan, Ltd., IT&E, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Sorensen Media Group Saipan and Take Care/FHP. (MMAC)

Guam student appointed to West Point



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo is joined, from left to right, by Michael Anthony Tougher IV and Wendy Tougher.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam resident Michael Anthony Tougher IV has been appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Tougher is a 2010 graduate of Guam High School and will join the class of 2014 at the U.S. Military Academy. He is the son of Michael Tougher III and Wendy Tougher from the village of Maite.

He was nominated to West

Point by Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo.

Michael is a cadet executive officer in the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and is actively involved with numerous community service projects on Guam. At Guam High School, Tougher competed in varsity cross country, varsity wrestling, and varsity track and served as captain of the Guam High School wres-

tling and cross country teams.

"I congratulate Michael on his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point," Bordallo said. "Michael is a well rounded, highly motivated student and he is prepared for the challenges of West Point. Michael has a strong desire to serve our country and I look forward to his contributions to the U.S. Army and our nation." (PR)

38 new cops expected to join DPS soon

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Thirty-eight new police officers are expected to join the CNMI's Department of Public Safety's force by August 2010.

These 38 cadets are currently undergoing a rigid seven-month training for the 20th Police Academy Cycle. The training kicked off in the third week of February.

According to DPS spokesman Eric David yesterday, six of the cadets are each from Tinian and Rota, while the rest are from Saipan.

David said the new recruits are expected to augment the DPS force on the three islands.

Last August, the arrival of 57 Echo Company soldiers after a yearlong deployment to the Middle East beefed up the man-

power shifting at the DPS.

The returning soldiers who are DPS personnel reported to their regular duties in both police and fire divisions.

Today, Tuesday, the new cadets will be at the Superior Court to attend lectures on court demeanor.

David said associate judges David Wiseman and Kenneth Govendo will serve as the lecturers.

Island Snapshots



ENVIRONMENT EXPO
Garapan Elementary School students get to touch a live brown tree snake in the Division of Fish and Wildlife booth at the Environmental Expo held on April 22 and 23 at the American Memorial Park in Garapan as part of the Environmental Awareness Month activities.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Ellen Delos Santos, left, co-owner and sales and marketing manager of NoKaOi Saipan, gives elementary school students a brief presentation on termites and other household pests at the Environmental Expo.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



ARTS FESTIVAL
Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, left, receives an arts and crafts token from representatives of the Guam delegation to the 29th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival in Susupe on Saturday morning.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Tattoo artist Dragon Edong at work during the Flame Tree Arts Festival.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, left, and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos look on as a family member of the late musician Richard Naputi Borja Jr. holds a poster of their dear departed, who was among those deceased artist honored during the opening ceremonies for 29th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival in Susupe on Saturday morning.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



BEACH CLEANUP
The staff of the Saipan Grand Hotel and Century Hotel pose with Human Resource manager Joe Ada, fourth from left, after conducting a beach cleanup last Saturday, April 25, 2010.



ISLANDWIDE CLEANUP
Carlos Ketebebang of the Division of Environmental Quality prepares to load plastics full of trash picked up by employees of Tan Holdings-affiliate companies in Garapan on Saturday morning as part of the islandwide cleanup.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Business

Goldman e-mails show how crash turned into cash

NEW YORK (AP)—As the U.S. housing turned downward in January 2007, a Goldman Sachs trader wrote in e-mails to a woman he apparently was courting that investments he had sold were “like Frankenstein turning against his own inventor.”

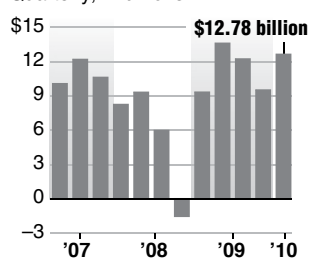
“I’m trading a product which a month ago was worth \$100 and today is only worth \$93,” wrote Fabrice Tourre, who was charged along with the bank in a civil complaint filed this month by the Securities and Exchange Commission. “That doesn’t seem like a lot but when you take into account ... (the investments) are worth billions, well it adds up to a lot of money.”

Tourre was talking about investment products like the one at the heart of a federal complaint against his firm. For Tourre, the investments were like an invention gone awry: He had started arranging them when the market was on the upswing. But he continued selling them after the market turned—now with Goldman betting

Banking on fortune

The financial titan's first-quarter earnings nearly doubled.

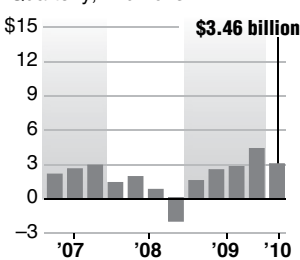
Goldman Sachs revenue ...
Quarterly, in billions



Source: Goldman Sachs
Graphic: Los Angeles Times, Pat Carr/MCT

... and profit

Quarterly, in billions



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against them, in one case allegedly misleading investors about a deal's origin.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. released that e-mail and 25 other internal documents Saturday in response to a Senate panel's release of messages in which Goldman executives boast about money they were making as the market imploded later in 2007.

When credit rating agencies downgraded many billions of dollars of mortgage-backed investments in October 2007, Goldman executive Donald Mul-

len was unabashedly pleased.

“Sounds like we will make serious money,” Mullen wrote to Michael Swenson, another executive, in one of the e-mails released by the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

Goldman has argued vehemently that it did not profit from the mortgage meltdown.

Swenson and Tourre, along with Goldman CEO Lloyd Blankfein, will face a public grilling on Capitol Hill Tuesday from the subcommittee.

Greece confident of landing billions in new loans

WASHINGTON (AP)—A key Greek economic official expressed confidence Sunday that his country will be able to secure billions of dollars in emergency loans from European countries and the International Monetary Fund to avoid a crippling debt default.

Greek Finance Minister George Papaconstantinou also had a blunt message for market speculators betting against Greece: “They will lose their shirts.”

Papaconstantinou called a “red herring” market speculation that Greece may still have to default on some of its debt, forcing investors to ac-

cept less than full repayment on the Greek bonds they are holding. He said any such restructuring of Greek debt was “off the table.”

His comments capped a difficult week in which Greece was forced to formally request assistance on Friday from other European nations and the International Monetary Fund after months of saying it would be able to weather its debt crisis using its own resources.

In a nationally televised address announcing the decision to request aid, Greek Prime Minister George Papandreu described his country's economy as a “sinking ship” with soaring

government budget deficits that Greece could no longer finance without outside help.

To tide it over, Greece is hoping to obtain emergency loans of about \$40 billion from the group of 16 European countries which, like Greece, use the euro as a common currency, and an additional \$13.4 billion from the IMF.

The Greek government has already agreed to put in place painful austerity measures to trim government spending and public pensions, but it was likely that the IMF and the euro-zone governments will require even tougher measures in return for assistance.

Dodd, the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, agreed to toughen his sweeping bill with rules on derivatives despite objections from the Obama administration, according to a Democratic official familiar with the negotiations. Derivatives are the complex securities blamed for helping precipitate the 2008 Wall Street crisis. The restrictions adopted by Dodd were written and approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee last week.

Asian stock markets higher in early trade

TOKYO (AP)—Asian stocks moved higher in early trade Monday, after broad gains in the U.S. on Friday defied investors who have been predicting a fall in share prices. Japan's main benchmark, the Nikkei 225 stock index, was up 2 percent at 11137.42, with many big-name exporters among the daily leaders as the dollar rose versus the yen. A stronger dollar can make sales abroad worth more in yen terms. Car manufacturers were up strongly in Tokyo. Toyota Motor Corp. was up 3.1 percent, while Honda Motor Co. and Isuzu Motors both gained 2.5 percent. Canon, which often serves as a bellwether for export stocks, rose 3.2 percent. South Korea's Kospi index increased 0.95 percent to 1754.23. Shares also rose in Shanghai, Taiwan and New Zealand.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

China gains influence in World Bank's practices

WASHINGTON (AP)—The World Bank recognized China's growing economic influence and agreed Sunday to elevate Beijing's voting power to behind only the U.S. and Japan in the 186-nation lending organization. Lifting China above a number of Western powers, including Germany, France and Britain, also gives other nations with emerging economies more voice and say in how the bank operates and lends money. Bank members also decided to increase the institution's capital by \$3.5 billion; it was the first increase in more than 20 years. China's stake at the bank, in terms of voting power, climbs from 2.78 percent to 4.42 percent. The U.S., the world's largest economy, remains No. 1 spot at 15.85 percent, effectively giving it veto power, followed by Japan at 6.84 percent.

No deal yet on financial rules as test vote looms

WASHINGTON (AP)—With no bipartisan deal on how to rein in Wall Street, Democrats stepped up their efforts Sunday to splinter unified Republican opposition to their sweeping regulatory overhaul. In a move that could attract the support of at least two Republicans, Democratic Sen. Christopher

Nation

Saviors as tornado hit: A table, a wall, a freezer

YAZOO CITY, Miss. (AP)—One prayed to God under a communion table as his church was blown to pieces around him.

Another was on the phone with a meteorologist when the tornado threw him against a cinderblock wall that held just long enough to save his life. A coroner nearly became a victim himself when the twister flipped his truck four times; later he went out in his hospital gown to help identify bodies.

At least 10 people were killed when the tornado ripped through the rural Mississippi countryside and two deaths in Alabama have been blamed on storms there. It's the stories told by survivors on Sunday that show how much higher the toll could have been.

Dale Thrasher, 60, had been alone in Hillcrest Baptist Church when the tornado hit Saturday, ripping away wood and metal until all that was left was rubble. Thrasher and the table he had climbed under as



AP

Staff and family members haul away the salvageable contents of their beauty shop as they are moved past their tarp covered building, Sunday, April 25, 2010, in Yazoo City, Miss.

he prayed for protection.

“The whole building caved in,” he said. “But me and that table were still there.”

Sunday was sunny and breezy as Thrasher and other

members of the Yazoo City church dug through the debris and pulled out a few chairs and other items. One found a hymnal opened to the song, “Till the Storm Passes By.”

Congressman: US should fight Ariz. immigrant law

PHOENIX (AP)—An Arizona congressman urged the Obama administration on Sunday not to cooperate when illegal immigrants are picked up by local police if a tough new state immigration law survives legal challenges.

U.S. Rep. Raul Grijalva, a Democrat, and civil rights activists spoke to thousands of people gathered at the state

Capitol and called on President Barack Obama to fight the law, promising to march in the streets and invite arrest by refusing to comply.

“We’re going to overturn this unjust and racist law, and then we’re going to overturn the power structure that created this unjust, racist law,” Grijalva said.

Obama has called the new law “misguided” and instruct-

ed the Justice Department to examine it to see if it's legal. It requires police to question people about their immigration status—including asking for identification—if they suspect someone is in the country illegally. Opponents say it would lead to racial profiling because officers would be more likely to ask people who look Hispanic.

ACROSS THE NATION

Armed man arrested at NC airport as Obama departs

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (AP)—An armed man spotted at a North Carolina airport parking lot just after Air Force One departed Sunday told an officer he wanted to see the president and had a car equipped with police gear, including a siren and flashing lights, authorities said. Joseph Sean McVey, 23, of Coshocton, Ohio, is charged with going armed in terror of the public, a misdemeanor, said Asheville Regional Airport Police Capt. Kevan Smith. Security was heightened at the airport because President Barack Obama was leaving after spending the weekend vacationing in Asheville. He was headed to a memorial service for 29 West Virginia coal miners killed in an explosion. At about 2 p.m., airport police saw McVey get out of a maroon car with Ohio plates and that he had a sidearm, Smith said. Both airport police and the Secret Service questioned him and he was taken into custody. The suspect was nowhere near the president's plane, which had just departed, and was in a rental car return lot that is open to the public, Smith said.

Quick end to Gulf Oil leak depends on robot subs

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—It could take hours or it could take months to stop a 42,000-gallon-a-day oil leak polluting the Gulf of Mexico at the site of a wrecked drilling platform. Whether the environmental threat grows many times

bigger depends on whether the oil company can turn the well completely off. Crews are using robot submarines to activate valves at the well head in hopes of cutting off the leak, which threatens the Gulf Coast's fragile ecosystem of shrimp, fish, birds and coral. If the effort fails, they'll have to start drilling again. The submarine work will take 24 to 36 hours, Doug Suttles, chief operating officer for BP Exploration and Production, said Sunday afternoon. “I should emphasize this is a highly complex operation being performed at 5,000 feet below the surface and it may not be successful,” he said.

Minn. Patrol: Car wreck kills 6, including 3 teens

CAMBRIDGE, Minn. (AP)—The State Patrol says alcohol may have been a factor in a Minnesota car crash that killed six people, including three teenagers. Patrol Lt. Eric Roeske says there was a smell of alcohol from a car that collided with a sport utility vehicle early Sunday on Highway 95 west of Cambridge, about 40 miles north of Minneapolis. The patrol says the car was driven by a 16-year-old who got her license less than three weeks ago. She was hospitalized in serious condition. Roeske says her passengers—15-year-old Kelsey Blackledge, 16-year-old Stephen Kendryna, 17-year-old Travis Buchan and 21-year-old Travis Gryczkowski—were killed. Two people in the SUV also died. Their names haven't been released.

Asia

Okinawans rally for US base to be moved off island



A participant listens to a speech during a mass rally in the town of Yomitan on Japan's southern island of Okinawa Sunday, April 25, 2010.

TOKYO (AP)—Tens of thousands of Okinawan residents and leaders demanded a U.S. Marine base be moved off the island at a mass rally Sunday, inflamed by speculation the government may finally accept a plan to merely relocate it to another part of the

southern Japanese island.

Okinawans have long complained of the burden of hosting most of 47,000 American troops in Japan under a security pact. Okinawa was under U.S. occupation until 1972 and many residents resent the U.S.

military presence as legacy of Japan's World War II defeat.

Tokyo and Washington agreed in 2006 to move sprawling Futenma Marine Corps air field to a less crowded part of Okinawa and to move 8,000 of its Marines to Guam. But when Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama took power last September he said he would not honor the deal struck by his political rivals and promised to find a site off Okinawa for the troops.

"We will not allow the base to stay here," Okinawa Gov. Hirokazu Nakaima told the cheering crowd. "We want the Hatoyama government to keep its promise."

Hatoyama has delayed a decision in the face of rejection by potential relocation sites.

About 90,000 people from across the island gathered in the town of Yomitan, carrying banners and placards with anti-U.S. military slogans and demanding Hatoyama keep his promise and move the Futenma base outside the island.

The protesters were particularly upset as media reports said earlier Sunday that Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada had told U.S. Ambassador John Roos last week that Tokyo was moving to accept much of the 2006 deal.

South Korea mourns victims of ship blast

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's president Monday bemoaned the "precious deaths" of dozens of sailors killed when an explosion destroyed their warship, as suspicion increasingly fell on a North Korean torpedo blast in the disaster.

Makeshift altars have been set up across South Korea for a five-day mourning period that opened Sunday to honor victims aboard the 1,200-ton Cheonan when it split into two in an unexplained explosion on March 26. President Lee Myung-bak visited one of the shrines at a

plaza in Seoul on Monday to pay his respects.

"The Republic of Korea will never forget your precious deaths," Lee wrote at a condolence book at the mourning station, according to South Korean media pool reports.

Last week, a tearful Lee said in a nationally televised speech that South Korea will respond "resolutely and unwaveringly" against anyone responsible for the blast.

On Sunday, Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said that an underwater explosion ap-

peared to have ripped apart the vessel, and a torpedo blast seemed the most likely cause. Investigators who examined salvaged wreckage separately announced Sunday that a close-range, external explosion likely sank it.

"Basically, I think the bubble jet effect caused by a heavy torpedo is the most likely" cause, Kim told reporters Sunday. The bubble jet effect refers to the rapidly expanding bubble an underwater blast creates and the subsequent destructive column of water unleashed.

colonial powers at bay, averting political violence or settling family squabbles, Thais have earned a reputation for deft diplomacy, thwarting confrontation and achieving compromise, or as they proudly say, "bending with the wind like bamboo." Until now, it seems. The latest iteration of Thailand's political crisis, which pits a largely rural movement against the government, is in its seventh week. There is no end in sight and seemingly no one able to break the deadlock that has seen protesters occupying key areas of Bangkok for weeks. Individuals and institutions, including the monarchy, that once played key mediating roles, are either powerless or silent.

Major earthquake hits off Taiwan coast

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—The U.S. Geological Survey says a 6.9 magnitude earthquake has struck off the southeast coast of Taiwan. The agency says the quake hit at 10:59 a.m. local time (0259 GMT) Monday, 195 miles (295 kilometers) off the southern Taiwan city of Taitung. Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau says no tsunami warning has been issued. Buildings swayed in Taipei, the capital, when the quake hit, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

World

Hamas releases cartoon about captured Israeli

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Hamas released an animated film Sunday bearing a grisly message for Israel: If it doesn't meet the Islamic militant group's demands, an Israeli soldier it has held for nearly four years could return home in a coffin.

The short but sophisticated cartoon—which depicts Sgt. Gilad Schalit's aging father wandering empty streets with a picture of his son and ends with the words "There is still hope"—is the latest product of Hamas' growing media machine.

TV and radio stations controlled by the group continuously broadcast Hamas-produced songs and music videos threatening the Jewish state and rallying the group's militant Islamic base.

But the latest cartoon—which was widely broadcast on Israeli TV—was remarkable for the personal and callous nature of the appeal on an issue that has profound emotional resonance for many Israelis: The fate of Schalit, who was captured by Gaza militants in June 2006.

The website of Hamas' armed



In this frame grab from an animated film made by the Islamic group of Hamas and released on Sunday, April 25, 2010, an image of Noam Schalit sits next to a portrait of his son, Israeli captured soldier Gilad Schalit.

wing, which posted the video, said it was intended to pressure Israelis to accept demands for a prisoner swap and warns the Israeli government it could regret not making a deal quickly.

Schalit's father, who has become a recognizable face in Israel, is the main character of the three-minute, 20-second short, in Hebrew with English and Arabic subtitles. Noam Schalit is normally clean-shaven, but

he appears in the film's later scenes with a cane and scraggly gray beard, suggesting he has grown old while awaiting his son's release.

The elder Schalit passes billboards on which Israeli leaders vow to free his son or get information on his fate. He reads a newspaper ad offering \$50 million for information on his son's whereabouts, then tosses it in the trash.

Mexico says cartels turning attacks on authorities

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico's drug cartels have changed tactics and are turning more attacks on authorities, rather than focusing their fire on rivals gangs, the country's top security official said Sunday.

Interior Secretary Fernandez Gomez-Mont said at a news conference that two back-to-back, bloody ambushes of government convoys—both blamed on cartels—represent a new tactic.

"In the last few weeks the dynamics of the violence have changed. The criminals have decided to directly confront and attack the authorities,"

Gomez-Mont said.

"They are trying to direct their fire power at what they fear most at this moment, which is the authorities," he said.

Officials here have long said that more than 90 percent of the death toll in Mexico's wave of drug violence - which has claimed more than 22,700 lives since a government crackdown began in December 2006 - are victims of disputes between rival gangs.

Mexican drug gangs have been known to target security officials. The nation's acting federal police chief was shot dead in May 2008 in an at-

tack attributed to drug traffickers lashing back at President Felipe Calderon's offensive against organized crime.

But such high-profile attacks were rare in comparison to inter-gang warfare. But after the large-scale attacks on officials Friday and Saturday, "casualties among the authorities are beginning to increase in this battle," Gomez-Mont said.

On Saturday, gunmen armed with assault rifles and grenades attacked a convoy carrying the top security official of the western state of Michoacan, in what appeared to be a carefully planned ambush.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Watchdog wants RP armed groups dismantled

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Political killings in the Philippines will likely continue no matter who takes power in the upcoming presidential election because neither of the leading candidates is committed to dismantling paramilitary forces allegedly responsible for most of the atrocities, a U.S.-based human rights watchdog said Saturday. The leading contenders—Senator Benigno "Noy" Aquino III and Senator Manuel Villar—will continue to rely on the government-armed paramilitary groups that have become private armies for local warlords, including a powerful clan blamed for the massacre of 57 people last year, said Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch. Although both candidates recently told Roth they would not abolish the paramilitary units, he urged them in the May 10 elections to take a firm stand against human rights violations, particularly political killings such as the Nov. 23 massacre in southern Maguindanao province.

No exit seen from Thailand's very un-Thai crisis

BANGKOK (AP)—Whether keeping rapacious

WORLD BRIEFS

Chilean cardinal pledges full abuse investigation

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—A top Roman Catholic official in Chile acknowledged in a letter Sunday that he suspended an investigation into alleged abuses by a priest because he was looking for more evidence. But Cardinal Francisco Javier Errazuriz assured parishioners the church investigation is again under way into the retired Rev. Fernando Karadima, who also is the subject of a Chilean prosecutor's criminal probe. "After an initial investigation ... I suspended the matter to wait for new evidence, analyze more deeply what we already had and hold new consultations with experts in canonical law," Errazuriz said in the letter, which was read aloud to all parishes in the archdiocese of the capital, Santiago.

Cubans hold municipal elections; belie criticism

HAVANA (AP)—Cubans voted for municipal assemblies across the island Sunday in a vote the communist government says belies criticism by Washington and Europe that Fidel Castro's half-century old revolution is not democratic. Almost all of Cuba's 8.4 million eligible voters were ex-

pected to participate in balloting to choose 15,000 people to fill seats in 169 municipal assemblies. Results were expected Monday. A run-off to decide elections in which no candidate received at least 50 percent of the vote will be held May 2.

Iran marks anniversary of failed US rescue attempt

DASHT-E-KAVIR, Iran (AP)—Hundreds of Iranians on Sunday marked the 30th anniversary of a failed U.S. military operation to rescue American hostages in Tehran, with prayers and words of defiance for Washington. The 1980 rescue attempt—called Operation Eagle Claw—turned into a major embarrassment for the U.S. when an American helicopter collided with a C-130 transport plane at a desert landing spot during a sandstorm. Eight U.S. servicemen were killed. As in years past, hundreds of hardline Iranians, many of them members of the paramilitary Basij volunteers, gathered at the crash site, some 370 miles (600 kilometers) southeast of Tehran, to celebrate the failed rescue. Hardline parliamentary speaker Ali Larijani told those gathered, most of whom had been bused to the site, that the failed American mission "humiliated the arrogant" U.S. administration.

Focus

Shroud of Turin displayed for 1st time in 10 years

TURIN, Italy (AP)—The Shroud of Turin went on public display at the start of this month for the first time in 10 years, drawing long lines of people to see the linen some believe is Christ's burial cloth and others dismiss as a medieval fake.

At least 1.8 million people had already reserved their three-to-five-minute chance to gaze at the cloth, which is kept in a bulletproof, climate-controlled case. Viewing continues through May 23.

Pope Benedict XVI is scheduled to fly to Turin, in northwest Italy, on May 2 to pray before the shroud.

It is the first time the 14-foot-long, 3.5-foot-wide (4.3-meter-long, 1 meter-wide) has gone on public display since a special showing in 2000 during Millennium celebrations.

The Vatican has tiptoed around the issue of just what the cloth is, calling it a powerful symbol of Christ's suffering while making no claim to its authenticity.

A Vatican researcher said late last year that faint writing on the linen, which she studied through computer-enhanced images, proves the cloth was used to wrap Jesus' body after his crucifixion.

But experts stand by carbon-dating of scraps of the cloth that determine the linen was made in the 13th or 14th century in a kind of medieval forgery. That testing didn't explain how the image on the shroud—of a man with wounds similar to those suffered by Christ—was formed.

However, some have suggested the dating results might have been skewed by contamination and called for a larger sample to be analyzed.

Big tourist draw

The Shroud's pull is so powerful—and the waiting lines so long—that the Archdiocese in Turin strongly recommends reserving tickets online to see the relic.

Meanwhile, hotels in Turin are booked out, and souvenir shops are filled to the brim with tourists looking to buy books, stamps and posters of the relic.

Hildegard and Ernst Rump were relieved that they got to see the shroud, even without booking online. After a long drive from the German state of Lower Saxony, the couple still had to wait in line with tens of

"I'm not completely floored, but I am quite touched," explained Hildegard Rump. "You have to get into it. You need a little quiet time for it to take effect on you."

In fact, the pilgrims are not allotted much time at the shroud, which hangs above the altar. Just three minutes are allowed per person to view the cloth that bears a faint image of a bearded

man who has suffered torture to his hands and feet. Through bullet-proof display glass, traces of blood are also apparent on the forehead, where the Crown of Thorns would have been.

Ernst Rump said his short time in the shroud's presence has strengthened his faith.

"For me personally, it's a confirmation of the Revelation and of the message of Jesus Christ's resurrection. Here you've got a few concrete clues as to how it occurred," Rump said. "These aren't things that can turn you into a believer, but they can support and confirm

your faith," he added.

Unclear origins

Most historical and scientific evidence, including a 1988 radiocarbon-dating test, have place the shroud's origins at around 1300. Yet, there still remains much about the shroud that is, so to speak, shrouded in mystery.

For example, scientists have determined that the image on the shroud is not made of normal pigments. But they still haven't been able to say what did create the image.

Bruno Barberis, an expert

in sindonology, or shroud research, told Deutsche Welle he cannot deny that the image is Jesus: "I don't have a conclusive, final answer," he said. "However, I can say that, with the data we have today, the probability is very high. In ten or twenty years we might be able to tell more precisely."

Barberis said he plans to conduct a new dating-test of the cloth that would be more accurate than the carbon dating procedure previously conducted.

As with all relics of the kind, the Church has made no pronouncements as to the shroud's

authenticity. According to Turin's Archbishop Severino Poletto, the shroud's provenance is less important than the fact that people believe in it. Their reverence is an important sign of faith, he said, and added that he hopes pilgrims will approach the shroud without prejudice.

Good publicity

In any case, the display of the Turin Shroud has garnered the Church some positive press at a time when there is little to be found.

Monsignor Guiseppe Ghiberti, who organized the exhi-

bition for the Archdiocese of Turin, was pleased to see the excitement surrounding the display, which will require a total of about 3000 volunteers. Ghiberti believes the shroud has a particular currency in today's visual culture.

"For the Church it's very important to be able to show something depicting an echo of the Gospels," he said. "The message is just as important today as it was centuries ago."

Clearly, the message is quite powerful for some. Despite the Church's current crises, believers like the Rumps continue to celebrate their faith in the form of pilgrimages. Before their visit to Turin, the couple went to Manoppello to see another shroud, which shows Jesus resurrected, and soon they are planning a visit across the Atlantic to see Our Lady of Guadalupe, a famous Mexican icon.

Unveiling the Shroud

The Shroud of Turin, venerated by many Christians as Jesus Christ's burial cloth, is on display for the first time in 10 years in its namesake Italian city from April 10 to May 23.

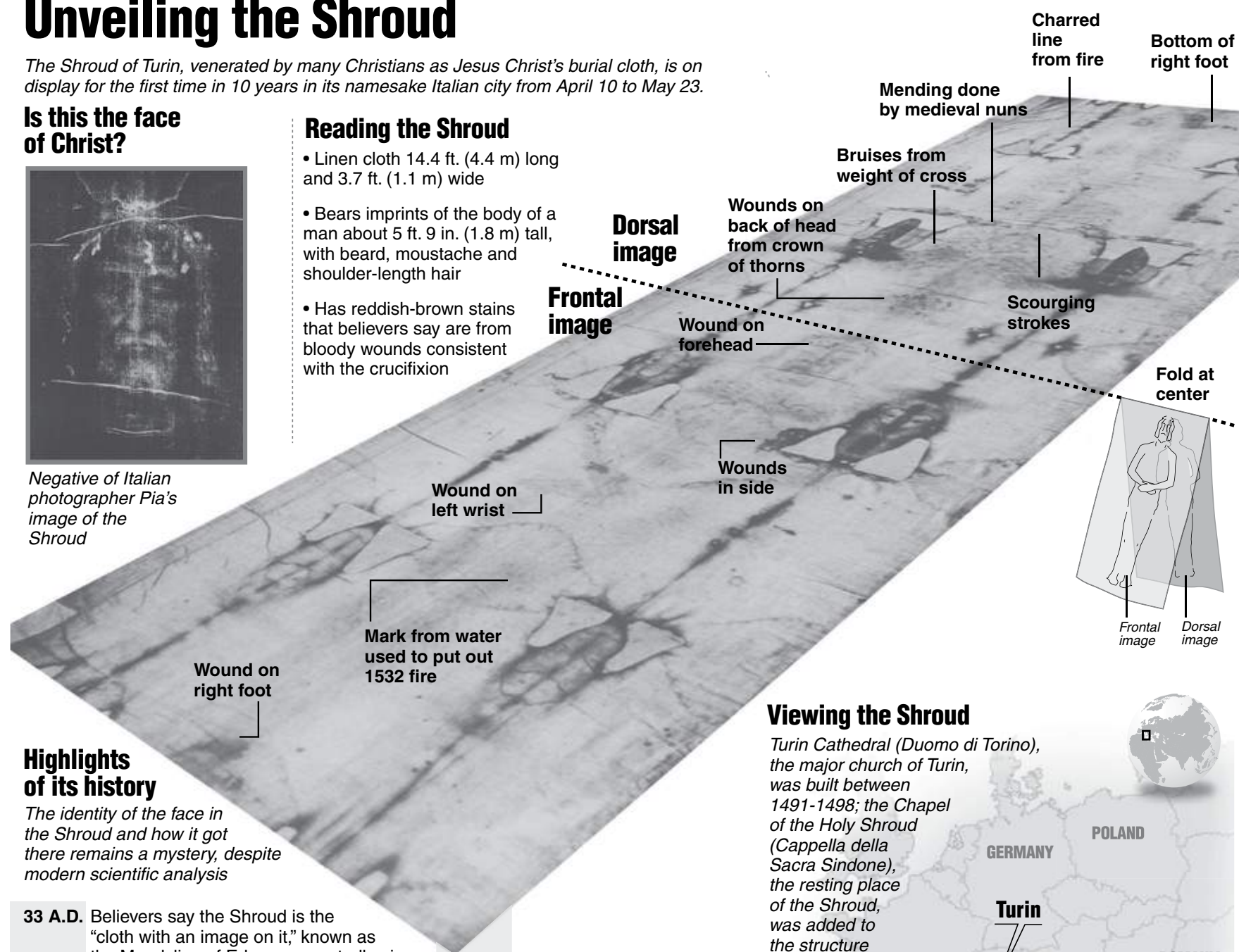
Is this the face of Christ?



Negative of Italian photographer Pia's image of the Shroud

Reading the Shroud

- Linen cloth 14.4 ft. (4.4 m) long and 3.7 ft. (1.1 m) wide
- Bears imprints of the body of a man about 5 ft. 9 in. (1.8 m) tall, with beard, moustache and shoulder-length hair
- Has reddish-brown stains that believers say are from bloody wounds consistent with the crucifixion



Highlights of its history

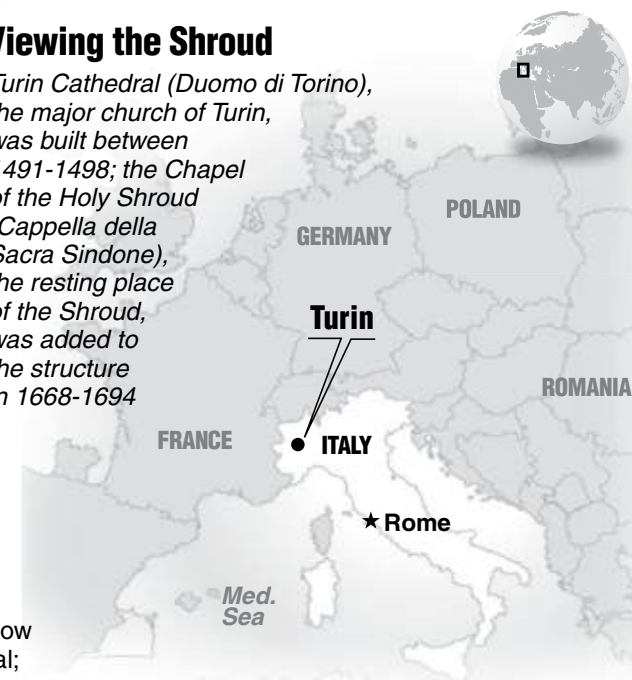
The identity of the face in the Shroud and how it got there remains a mystery, despite modern scientific analysis

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 33 A.D. | Believers say the Shroud is the "cloth with an image on it," known as the Mandylion of Edessa, reportedly given to the King of Edessa (now Urfa, Turkey) |
| 944 | Cloth reportedly taken to Constantinople (Istanbul) |
| 1204 | Cloth disappears during Fourth Crusade |
| 1452 | Turns up again when given to the royal House of Savoy |
| 1532 | Escapes being destroyed by fire; patched by nuns |
| 1578 | Taken to Turin; later enshrined in chapel adjoining the cathedral |
| 1898 | Photographer Secondo Pia takes first known photograph (shown above) |

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1973 | Commission studies Shroud, later says pollen from plants unique to Israel and Turkey were found on it |
| 1978 | Scientists X-ray, otherwise examine Shroud but cannot explain how image was formed |
| 1989 | Results of radiocarbon testing show linen in the Shroud to be medieval; Shroud is said to be fake |
| 2005 | Second radiocarbon test says sample used in earlier test was from rewoven area and did not determine its true age |

Viewing the Shroud

Turin Cathedral (Duomo di Torino), the major church of Turin, was built between 1491-1498; the Chapel of the Holy Shroud (Cappella della Sacra Sindone), the resting place of the Shroud, was added to the structure in 1668-1694



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Source: "Turin" by Luca Mozzati, "The Cathedral of Turin and the Shroud" by Franco Valesio, Discovery Channel Graphic: Pat Carr

Overdrive

Lancer Ralliart is unabashedly odd

By MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

Where have all the goofy cars gone? The cars that don't even make a drive-by of mainstream appeal before blasting full-throttle for weirdness. The cars that become cult favorites. Eccentric-looking and equipped with unusual features, they baffle most buyers but delight a few.

They're hard to find these days. We live in risk-averse times. Most automakers would rather invest in a carefully researched boring Corolla wannabe than indulge their wild side.

Happily, that doesn't apply to the Mitsubishi Lancer Sportback Ralliart. From its hatchback body to a rally-inspired all-wheel drive powertrain, the Sportback compact defies convention.

The Sportback Ralliart is an exalted version of Mitsubishi's pleasant Lancer compact. A hatchback body accounts for the Sportback part of its name, while a 237-horsepower, 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine, all-wheel drive, a dual-clutch transmission and racy styling tweaks justify the Ralliart badge.

Prices for the Lancer Sportback Ralliart start at \$27,590. I tested a well-equipped model that stickered at \$30,340. Less-powerful front-wheel drive versions of the Sportback come with a 168-horsepower, 2.4-liter engine and prices starting at \$19,190. All prices exclude destination charges.

The Sportback Ralliart competes with compact performance cars like the Audi A3, Honda Civic Si, Subaru WRX and Volkswagen GTI. It costs more than the less-powerful front-drive Civic Si and GTI, but compares favorably to the all-wheel drive A3 and WRX.

The Sportback's hatchback body style increases cargo space 1.5 cubic feet versus the Lancer sedan, to 13.8 cubic feet with the rear seat up and 47 cubic feet with the seat folded flat. The Sportback has more cargo space than the Civic Si, and WRX, but less than the GTI and A3.



From its hatchback body to a rally-inspired all-wheel drive powertrain, the Mitsubishi Lancer Sportback Ralliart compact defies convention.

NUTS & BOLTS

Mitsubishi Lancer Sportback Ralliart

Vehicle type: All-wheel drive five-passenger performance hatchback

Price as tested: \$30,340 (excluding destination charges)

Rating: Three of four stars

Reasons to buy: Power, handling, unique appearance

Shortcomings: Interior storage, cupholders, ride comfort

Ratings guide:

Four stars: Best in its class

Three stars: Above average

Two stars: Competent

One star: Below average

AT A GLANCE:

Vehicle type: All-wheel drive five-passenger performance hatchback

Engine: 237-horsepower 2.0-liter DOHC 16-valve variable-valve timing turbocharged four-cylinder

Transmission: Six-speed dual clutch

Base price: \$27,590 (excluding destination charges)

Key features: Antilock brakes; electronic brake-force distribution; electronic stability control; front-seat side air bags; driver's knee air bag; daytime running lights; front, center and rear limited-slip differentials; automatic climate control with micron filter; steering wheel audio and cruise switches; steering wheel shift paddles; manually adjustable tilt steering column; aluminum pedals, 60/40 split folding rear seat; Bluetooth hands-free phone system; dual exhaust; 18-inch alloy wheels and summer tires.

Options on test vehicle: Recaro sport seats; high-intensity headlights; 710-watt Rockford-Fosgate audio system with nine speakers including 10-inch subwoofer; six-disc in-dash CD changer; Sirius satellite radio.

COMPETITIVE EPA FUEL ECONOMY RATINGS (All use premium fuel)

Mitsubishi Lancer Sportback: 17 mpg city/25 mpg highway/20 mpg combined.

Audi A3 Quattro: 21 mpg city/28 mpg highway/24 mpg combined.

Honda Civic Si: 21 mpg city/29 mpg highway/24 mpg combined.

Subaru Impreza WRX: 17 mpg city/23 mpg highway/19 mpg combined

Volkswagen GTI with dual-clutch Transmission: 24 mpg city/32 mpg highway/27 mpg combined.

The car's sloping fastback profile gets a goofy little spoiler as part of the Ralliart appearance package. Other visual cues distinguishing the Ralliart include a bold rectangular grille, unique bumpers and a bulging aluminum hood that features two cooling vents. The

car's wide C-pillars reduce visibility.

The Ralliart's mechanical components deliver on the racy promise its styling makes. The 2.0-liter turbocharged engine rumbles with a satisfying growl. It delivers nearly all its 253 pound-feet of torque from 2,500 rpm to

4,700 rpm. That broad power band produces strong, immediate acceleration.

The engine has a bit more vibration than is ideal. Road noise is minimal, in spite of the grippy Yokohama summer tires on the car I tested.

The Sportback Ralliart's 17-mpg

city/25 mpg-highway EPA fuel economy doesn't match less-powerful sporty compacts, but compares well to the Subaru WRX that's its most direct competitor.

The car uses Mitsubishi's fast and precise dual-clutch six-speed transmission. The transmission has two modes: sport and normal. I preferred normal, which provided smooth, fast shifts. Sport mode makes the shifts quicker, but a little jarring. The transmission has manual and fully automatic modes.

The full-time all-wheel drive system can send up to 50 percent of the engine's torque to either the front or rear axle. It provides excellent control in hard acceleration and quick turns.

The suspension keeps the car stable and level in enthusiastic maneuvers. The ride is a little bumpy, but that's a small price to pay for the Ralliart's excellent handling.

The steering is quick and firm. Like the ride, steering effort will be too sporty for some.

The car I tested had the Recaro option package. It included a powerful 710-watt Rockford-Fosgate sound system, but the Recaro sport seats were a disappointment. They had the brand's signature sporty, scooped-out shape, but lacked some basic features like height adjustment.

The interior is functional, with clear gauges and simple controls. The car needs more interior storage. The bin in the center console is too small to be much use, and the cupholders are too shallow to hold drinks securely.

The instrument cluster includes a message center that flashes "See you" when you shut the engine off. It's another pleasantly goofy feature in a car that looks and sounds different from every angle.

Mere oddity is not a virtue, of course. If it were, there'd be statues of the Edsel and Aztek. Oddity that creates a unique, fast and fun little car, though ... that's a public service.

The Lancer Sportback Ralliart isn't for everybody. That's part of the sporty little hatchback's considerable charm.

Question: I have a 2007 Honda Odyssey. When I'm stopped and push my brakes as hard as I can, the pedal nearly touches the floor. It's a soft and spongy pedal, as if air is in the hydraulic system. The car stops adequately without having to depress the pedal really hard. Two dealers said the vehicle is operating properly.

Answer: I suspect air in the hydraulic system. My Alldata automotive database pulled up Honda service bulletin 07-045, dated March 2009, that addresses this symptom of a soft or low pedal. The likely cause is air leaking into the system from the ABS/traction control modulator control unit. The brake system should be bled manually to see if the pedal height returns to normal. If it does, the control unit should be replaced. If the vehicle is out of warranty, the bulletin indicates the repair may be eligible for "goodwill consideration."

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: The automatic transmission in

my 2001 Buick Regal with 180,000 miles shifts normally in cold weather, but it shifts very hard when the weather is warm. I've changed the transmission fluid and filter every 40,000 miles.

A: Which is probably why the transmission is still operating at nearly

warm weather with the scan tool still connected to see if the transmission fluid operating temperature is above normal, causing the transmission to operate in a "limp" mode. And finally, a half-can of SeaFoam Trans-Tune may help clean the pressure control valve and valve body.

then be quiet at all other speeds? Do you have any thoughts on what I can do or what is wrong?

A: Wear patterns on tires are often the cause of unusual howl, whine or drumming sounds, so start by rotating or replacing the tires. Next would be a careful check of the complete exhaust

disagreement about gas mileage. He maintains that if he is pulling a heavy load with his Suburban and uses 91 or 92 octane fuel instead of unleaded regular, he will get better mileage. I say it does not matter, and it's not good for the engine because of the carbon buildup on the pistons.

A: I agree with you. The rule of thumb is to use the lowest octane the engine will run properly on. Unless his vehicle is exhibiting symptoms of pre-ignition or detonation—"pinging" or "knocking" sounds under load—there's no performance, mileage or durability advantage to using higher-octane fuels.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.

HOW TO REPAIR YOUR CAR

'Spongy' brake may have air in hydraulic system

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I have a 2007 BMW X3. At about 10,000 miles it began having a very irritating, loud howl or whine in the rear end between 34 mph and 41 mph. The BMW service garage told me that this is normal on all BMWs and cannot be repaired, but the car is still safe to drive. Why should this howl happen at just 34 to 41 mph and

system and its mounts to see if some type of resonance is creating the noise. And check the rubber mounts for the rear final drive assembly.

Does the noise change or go away if you lift off the throttle at those speeds? If so, the noise may be from the ring and pinion gears in the rear differential.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: A co-worker and I are having a

Life & Style

Newbery winner Gaiman gives readers 'Instructions'

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Winning the highest honor for children's literature is changing Neil Gaiman's image from cult favorite to celebrity author. And it's making him think twice before he Tweets.

Before winning the John Newbery Medal in 2009 for his best-selling novel "The Grave-

yard Book," Gaiman said readers had found him on their own.

"I went from being something that was everybody's secret, private thing to being this huge kind of strange public thing," Gaiman said.

And his burgeoning fame means Gaiman has found he needs to be careful what he says

on Twitter, where he has nearly 1.5 million followers. He once had to delete and apologize for a grumpy post after a friend told him it would look like bullying.

Dressed in his daily uniform of black pants, black T-shirt and black boots (and, Gaiman said at the risk of oversharing, black underwear and socks),



AP

In this April 23, 2010 photo, best-selling author Neil Gaiman, 49, poses in his writing gazebo at his home in western Wisconsin.

the British-born author of fantasy, science fiction, horror—and children's books such as "Coraline"—relaxes with a cup of tea in his writing gazebo on a balmy spring afternoon. Bees dance among the white plum-tree blossoms outside Gaiman's towering home in western Wis-

consin, outside Minneapolis.

But there are macabre touches in this bucolic scene. A small gargoyle sits among nodding daffodils. A "zombie arm" thrusts up near a gravestone. On Gaiman's desk sits one of his four Bram Stoker Awards presented by the Horror Writers

Association, an award shaped like a haunted house with crawling creatures.

Despite all that, Gaiman, 49, said he's "not a horror aficionado."

"I'm probably more like a cook who uses horror as a herb or as a condiment. I love tossing in something that will send a little frisson of something or other up someone's spine. But I don't want to live there a year writing a book."

While "The Graveyard Book" is set in a cemetery, where an orphaned boy is raised by ghosts after his family is murdered, Gaiman said it's really a book about life and leaving home. His latest book "Instructions," is a poem about how to survive a fairy tale. It has charming illustrations by Charles Vess and hits bookstores Tuesday.

Gaiman and Vess first teamed up 20 years ago on the "Sandman" comic book series. Sandman No. 19, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," written by Gaiman and illustrated by Vess, won a World Fantasy Award in 1991, an unprecedented feat for a comic book. The two also collaborated on the novel "Stardust" and the 2009 children's book "Blueberry Girl."

George W. Bush book 'Decision Points' out Nov. 9

NEW YORK (AP)—The publisher of former President George W. Bush's book "Decision Points" on Sunday set a Nov. 9 release date, unveiled its cover design and announced new details about it.

Bush has said he is not writing a traditional memoir but an account of key decisions in his life. The cover features a photo of then-President Bush alone with his thoughts, standing in the Rose Garden Colonnade, wearing a dark suit and holding a briefing book, his head turned slightly from the camera.

According to Crown Publishers, "Decision Points" will offer "gripping, never-before-heard detail" on such historic events as the Sept. 11, 2001,

attacks and the 2000 presidential election along with Bush's decision to quit drinking, his relationship with his family and other personal details.

"Since leaving the Oval Office, President Bush has given virtually no interviews or public speeches about his presidency," Crown said in a statement. "Instead, he has spent almost every day writing 'Decision Points,' a strikingly personal and candid account revealing how and why he made the defining decisions in his consequential presidency and personal life."

A publishing industry source familiar with the book said that Bush had completed a first draft and was editing the manuscript on a computer at his office in

Dallas. A former White House speech writer, Chris Michel, is helping with research. The source was unsure whether Bush had compared notes with his wife, Laura Bush, whose memoir comes out May 4.

The source asked not to be identified because the book had not been released.

As president, Bush was known for not acknowledging errors, but Crown said that he "writes honestly and directly about his flaws and mistakes, as well as his historic achievements in reforming education, providing life-saving treatments for HIV/AIDS and malaria for millions of people in Africa, safeguarding the country from another terrorist attack, and other areas."

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Martha Iglecias Blas

March 15, 1964 – April 20, 2010

Lovingly known as "DOLL"

Was called to her eternal rest at the Guam Memorial Hospital on April 20, 2010 at the age of 46

In Her new life she now joins:

Father: Domingo Matagolai Blas

Brothers: Jose Iglecias Blas
Antonio Iglecias Blas

Her memories will forever be cherished by her:

Common-Law-Husband:

Daughters:

Son:

Grand Daughter:

Mother:

Mother-in Law:

Auntie:

Sisters and In-Laws:

Brothers and In-Laws:

Sisters/Brother-in-Law

Brothers/Sister-in-Law

On Tuesday (April 27, 2010) our beloved will arrive from Guam at 12:00 noon and will be escorted from the airport to CHC morgue. On Wednesday (April 28, 2010) our beloved will leave CHC morgue at 7:00 am to their residence in Chalan Kanoa District #4 for viewing.

At 10:45 am our beloved will be escorted to Mt. Carmel Cathedral for Mass of Christian burial at 11:00 am, and burial will follow immediately at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Lunch will be served at the residence in Chalan Kanoa District #4 immediately after.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Un Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Ginen I Familia

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory

PEDRO KANI TEIGITA

Lovingly known as "Dung"

Was called to his eternal rest at the age of 62 • Sept. 23, 1947 – April 17, 2010

In his new life, he now joins his:

Reared Parents: Mariana Kani & Juan Teigita
Mother: Ignacia T. Cangco
Father: Andres Reyes
Stepfather: Catalino T. Cangco
Parents In-law: Consolacion S. & Pedro K. Iguel
Brothers: Samuel T. Cangco, Julian Reyes
Brothers In-laws: Miguel S. Iguel, Luis S. Iguel
Sister In-law: Doris Reyes
Nephews: Ernie T. Dela Cruz, Octavious T. Palacios

His memories will forever remain in the hearts of his:

Wife: Bernadita Iguel Teigita

Children/Spouses/Grandchildren

Lorraine I. & Hector Venus
Michael Iguel & Evangeline Fitial (*Nievanalyn, Daraan, & Bernelia*)
Jeffrey I. Teigita & Emily K. Atalig (*Oceana, Issa, & Erniejay*)
Mariana I. Teigita (*Isaiah*)
Peter I. Teigita & Sharon B. Kaipat (*Elisha*)

Brothers/Sisters & In-laws:

Cayetana T. & Ereneo B. Dela Cruz
Carmelita T. & Alan I. Palacios
Vicente T. & Remedio D. Cangco
Michael T. & Anna I. Cangco
Pasqual T. & Evelyn D. Cangco
Isaac T. & Pamela K. Cangco
Hilaria C. & Jerry Woolley

Brothers & Sisters: (Guam)

Mr. & Mrs. Rosario Arriola And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Reyes And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Frankie Reyes And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Annie Chaco And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Mary Perez And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Reyes And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Reyes And Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dolores Reyes And Family

Brothers & Sisters In-law

Marina T. Iguel, Eremias M. & Dionicia O. Iguel,
Lydia M. Iguel, and Anna I. & Ivan Gatbanton

He will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, godchildren & friends.

Nightly mass is being offered at 6pm at Santa Remedios Church in Tanapag followed by the rosary at 7:45pm at the family residence in Tanapag.

The remains of PEDRO KANI TEIGITA will be arriving on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 1:15 a.m. and will be escorted to CHC morgue.

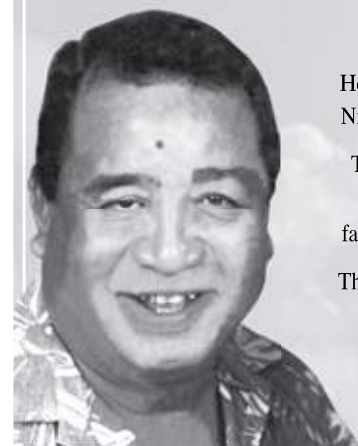
On Friday, April 30, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. the body will be escorted to the family residence in Tanapag for overnight viewing. Responso will be at 7pm and will be immediately followed by the rosary.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be on Saturday, May 01, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at Santa Remedios Church in Tanapag. Interment services will follow immediately at the Tanapag Public Cemetery.

Your prayers and presence are greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, and Oloomway

Bernadita I. Teigita, Children and Family



'Dragon' wings it back to No. 1 with \$15 million

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"How to Train Your Dragon" continues to breathe fire at the box office, while newer releases are mostly blowing smoke.

The DreamWorks Animation adventure took in \$15 million to reclaim the No. 1 spot in its fifth weekend of release. "How to Train Your Dragon" opened in first place in late March, then dropped back into the pack. But it has held up strongly and climbed to the top again amid a flurry of so-so new releases.

The tale of a Viking youth and his pet dragon raised its total to \$178 million and is on its way to becoming a \$200 million hit.

Premiering weakly at No. 2 with \$12.3 million was Jennifer Lopez's romantic comedy "The Back-up Plan," released by CBS Films. Another comedy, Steve



In this file film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Hiccup, voiced by Jay Baruchel, rides Toothless a scene is shown from "How to Train Your Dragon."

Carell and Tina Fey's "Date Night" from 20th Century Fox, held up well to finish at No. 3 with \$10.6 million, raising its total to \$63.5 million.

Among the weekend's

other newcomers, the Warner Bros. action flick "The Losers" flopped at No. 4 with \$9.6 million. Disney's nature film "Oceans" had a solid opening for a documentary, coming in at

No. 8 with \$6 million.

"How to Train Your Dragon" nearly regained the No. 1 spot the previous weekend but wound up a close second to Lionsgate's superhero comedy "Kick-Ass." In its second weekend, "Kick-Ass" slumped to No. 5 with \$9.5 million, down 52 percent from its debut, lifting its total to \$34.9 million.

Revenues for "How to Train Your Dragon" were off a scant 23 percent from the previous weekend.

"To be No. 1 in week five, it's an exciting time," said Anne Globe, head of marketing for DreamWorks Animation. "Especially to be decisively No. 1 after last weekend's box-office shenanigans."

The box office had ended

in rare photo finishes for two straight weekends as movies bunched up tightly in the rankings. Though "How to Train Your Dragon" was the clear winner this time, top movies again were crowded closely together as the weekend's newcomers failed to grab much attention.

Overall Hollywood revenues should top out at about \$100 million, the lowest-grossing weekend of the year, said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

Fans may simply be watching their finances amid the slow economic recovery, saving their money for the onslaught of summer blockbusters that starts May 7 with "Iron Man 2."

"They may be saying, 'I want to see big summer movies, so

hoping it would hold up well in subsequent weekends, as romantic comedies often do.

"Jennifer Lopez's films have great legs, as does she," said Steven Friedlander, head of distribution for CBS Films.

"The Back-up Plan" stars Lopez as a single woman who gets pregnant through artificial insemination, then meets the man of her dreams.

"The Losers," whose cast includes "Avatar" co-star Zoe Saldana, is a comic-book adaptation about a Special Forces team looking for payback after a mission goes bad.

Narrated by Pierce Brosnan, "Oceans" offers up-close glimpses of blue whales, walrus, sea turtles, spider crabs and other aquatic life. Since opening on Earth Day Thursday, "Oceans" has taken in \$8.5 million.

"Oceans" played in narrower release than other new movies, averaging \$4,975 in 1,206 theaters, a fair result for a documentary. By comparison, "The Back-up Plan" averaged \$3,735 in 3,280 theaters and "The Losers" averaged \$3,271 in 2,936 cinemas.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. "How to Train Your Dragon," \$15 million.
2. "The Back-up Plan," \$12.3 million.
3. "Date Night," \$10.6 million.
4. "The Losers," \$9.6 million.
5. "Kick-Ass," \$9.5 million.
6. "Clash of the Titans," \$9 million.
7. "Death at a Funeral," \$8 million.
8. "Oceans," \$6 million.
9. "The Last Song," \$3.7 million.
10. "Alice in Wonderland," \$2.2 million.

I'm just going to wait," Dergarabedian said. "Then suddenly, we're going to have this massive weekend when 'Iron Man 2' opens after we've had these mediocre weekends."

While "The Back-up Plan" opened weakly, CBS Films was

Spitzer docu premieres at Tribeca Film Fest

NEW YORK (AP)—A much-anticipated documentary about former New York governor Eliot Spitzer premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Though many of those interviewed for the film were in attendance Saturday evening, the documentary's subject was not. Director Alex Gibney, whose "Taxi to the Dark Side" won the 2007 documentary Oscar, interviewed Spitzer four times over the two years he spent making the film.

Though it was billed as unfin-

ished and doesn't yet have a title, Gibney said the film was "mostly finished." He made the film in tandem with author Peter Elkind, whose book "Rough Justice: The Rise and Fall of Eliot Spitzer" was recently released.

Ashley Dupre, the former call girl involved in the scandal, was not interviewed for the film. Gibney told the audience she asked for editorial control, which he refused.

Dupre said in an e-mail that she didn't want to grant an interview without "approval

over the edit."

"I didn't think it was smart to participate after what I've seen with editing," said Dupre. "I think everyone is trying to move on with their lives and by me participating in their project would only open old wounds."

Among those interviewed on camera were former CEO Cecil Suwal of the Emperor's Club VIP escort service and Spitzer rivals former New York Sen. Joe Bruno and Kenneth Langone, the former director of the New York Stock Exchange.

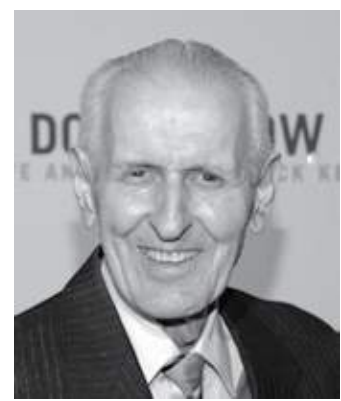
Kevorkian: Assisted suicide 'discussed to death'

DETROIT (AP)—Jack Kevorkian says assisted suicide has been "discussed to death."

The assisted suicide advocate known as "Dr. Death" said Thursday the HBO biographical movie "You Don't Know Jack" is unlikely to inspire much action but he's delighted and honored by the "superbly done" film about his crusade.

"It may stimulate a little more discussion—maybe even a little more probing discussion," Kevorkian told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "But it won't stimulate anybody to act, I'm sure."

The 82-year-old from Michigan has claimed he attended more than 130 deaths before being convicted of second-degree murder in 1999. He said only



In this April 14, 2010 file photo, Dr. Jack Kevorkian attends the premiere of "You Don't Know Jack: The Life and Deaths of Jack Kevorkian" at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York.

the threat of returning to prison keeps him from assisting in any more suicides.

Kevorkian, who was released from prison nearly three years ago and spends much of his time writing books, said he continues to provide "moral courage" to the cause. Still, he's not interested in merely rekindling the debate he helped spur 20 years ago.

He started making headlines on June 4, 1990, when the body of a woman with Alzheimer's disease was found in his van at an Oakland County park. Janet Adkins, 54, of Portland, Ore., received a lethal dose of drugs by pressing a button on a machine developed by Kevorkian.

"You'll hear people say, 'Well, it's in the news again, it's time for discussing this further.' No it isn't. It's been discussed to death," he said.

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The Losers

Friday	4:05	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Sunday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Mon thru Thurs	4:05	7:10	

Zoe Saldana, Chris Evans
 Action • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

An explosive action tale of betrayal and revenge, "The Losers" centers around the members of an elite Special Forces unit sent to the Bolivian jungle on a search and destroy mission. But the team—Clay, Jensen, Roque, Pooch and Cougar—soon to find that they have become the target of a deadly double cross, instigated from the inside by a powerful enemy known only as Max.



The Back-up Plan

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon thru Thurs	4:00	7:00	

Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin
 Romance, Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A single woman opts for artificial insemination after dating for years and failing to find the right guy, only to see the man of her dreams breeze into her life just as she learns she's pregnant. Zoe (Jennifer Lopez) is well aware that her biological dock is ticking, but she just can't find the type of guy she'd want to settle down and start a family with. Eventually, she makes the decision to become a single mother. The very same day that Zoe is artificially inseminated, however, she meets Stan (Alex O'Loughlin), a single charmer whom she thinks would make a great father.



The Last Song

Friday	4:20	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Mon thru Thurs	4:20	7:05	

Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
 Drama • Rated PG



The Bounty Hunter

Friday	4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon thru Thurs	4:15	7:15	

Jennifer Aniston, Gerald Butler
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



Kick-Ass

Friday	4:30	7:25	9:50
Saturday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Sunday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Mon thru Thurs	4:30	7:25	

Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage
 Action • Rated R

Synopsis

Mark Millar's violent comic tale of wannabe superheroes is adapted by writer/director Matthew Vaughn (Layer Cake) with this Marv Films production. Aaron Johnson stars as a teen who steps out of his house one day with a mask and a painted baseball bat and starts to fight crime even though he has no superpowers. Lyndsy Fonseca co-stars as the character's object of desire, with Nicolas Cage also appearing as an ex-cop whose hatred of a drug lord forces him to train his daughter to be a lethal vigilante.



Date Night

Friday	4:10	7:30	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Mon thru Thurs	4:10	7:30	

Steve Carrell, Tina Fey
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



Clash of the Titans

Friday	4:25	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Mon thru Thurs	4:25	7:20	

Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

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Quincy Jones talks music, life, love at ASCAP expo

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Despite his record-breaking success in music for 60 years, Quincy Jones says his proudest achievement is his seven children and six grandchildren.

Jones talked about his life and music career during an hourlong on-stage conversation with Ludacris Friday night as part of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' annual "I Create Music" expo at the Hollywood Renaissance Hotel.

The 77-year-old composer and producer says it's been "a blessing" to have worked with "every major artist of the 20th century," including Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin and Michael Jackson, but his No. 1 job is "being a good parent."

"The other things, you know, that's a gift from God and I cherish it," he said. "I don't take it for granted."

He called his children and grandchildren "the pride of my life now." Seeing them successful is "my Nobel Prize," Jones said.

Ludacris asked Jones about everything from music to marriage to money. Jones said that music saved him from a "gangster" lifestyle in his native Chicago. He learned all the brass instruments with the aim of mastering the trumpet.

"As soon as I started playing, I started hearing other instruments in my head," he said.

Then he started traveling as a musician, composer and arranger. Jones told the crowd of more than 2,500 to travel the world and "get a big dream, so if you get halfway there, you're still OK."

He advised aspiring musicians to understand the science of music and to have "humility with your creativity and grace with your success."

"It's really important because it's really not you," Jones said. "You're a terminal for a higher power."

The legendary musician and producer attributed his success to maintaining an open mind.

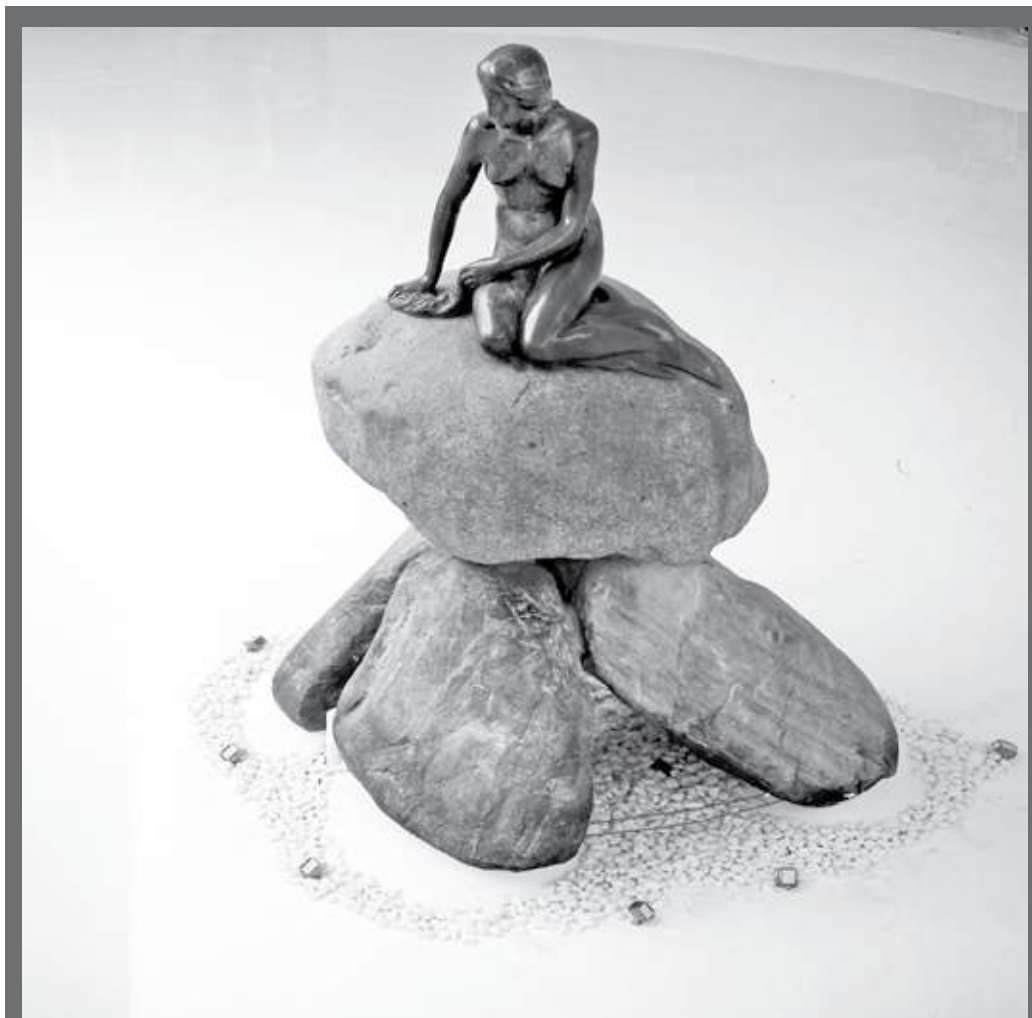
"I never turn my curiosity off," he said.

Jones, who has been nominated for a record 79 Grammy Awards, said his favorite musical memory was recording a song with Franklin in 1971. "It was a moment when God was in the studio and ... it was magic," he said.

Jones' next musical goal is to master song writing. But the future of music, he said, will sound a lot like the music people have loved for millennia.

"You have to have melody, rhythm and harmony to make a complete music," he said. "The melody, that's the power. That's the voice from God. Melody gets you straight in the heart."

The ASCAP Expo, which began Thursday and continues through Sunday, features workshops, exhibitions and conversations with hitmakers like Jones, Justin Timberlake, John Mayer and Bill Withers.



LITTLE MERMAID

Denmark's famed Little Mermaid statue is on display after it was unveiled in Denmark Pavilion at the World Expo site on the trial day Sunday, April 25, 2010 in Shanghai, China. The 5-foot (1.5-meter) statue honoring Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen left Copenhagen Harbor for first time in 97 years for Shanghai's Expo which opens May 1.

'Serial eater' gets praise, support for eating habits

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Regarding "Ruminating in Rio Rancho" (Feb. 19), whose wife has an issue with his eating style, I too am a "serial eater," and I have taken a fair amount of kidding and abuse over it. However, the tactic of claiming it is poor etiquette to shame the eater is a new one to me.



Dear Abby

In my experience, people react to serial eating because it is unusual. I can't explain why I do it, just as I can't understand why other people feel they must rotate their bites. I just know it works for me, and their method seems as odd to me as mine does to them.

I recall this subject was mentioned years ago in your mother's column. The writer said as a boy he was teased for eating this way, but an uncle of his had a different take. The uncle said that he had the capacity to become a great success because he did one thing at a time, and finished what he started before moving on.

So, to "Ruminating," what I advise is: Use your silverware, chew with your mouth closed, and compliment the chef. Tell her/him that each dish is so good that you don't want to dilute the taste, which would hamper your enjoyment.

FINISHING WHAT I START IN RALEIGH, N.C.

DEAR FINISHING: My readers agree unanimously that a person's eating habits are a matter of personal choice and "Ruminating's" wife should resist the urge to be such a control freak. Read on:

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Eating one portion at a time is not uncommon. During a home-cooked meal in Thailand, I made the mistake of taking a little from each platter and eating a bit of each one in rotation. My host informed me that in his country one takes a serving from one platter, eats it, and then takes another serving from another, etc.

There is no universal standard for proper etiquette. Customs vary from family to family and country to country. To establish their family "standards," the couple should discuss and do what they decide. At any meal, I follow my host's lead and then I am always correct.

POLITE IN ANY COMPANY,
DWAYNE OZEWALLA, PH.D.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: It is actually proper to rotate selections of food on your dinner plate. A good chef plans meals so that the taste of each selection complements the other, and the polite diner acknowledges each one. It's the second-best "gratuity" a chef can receive. Those who formed the habit of eating one item at a time were introduced to this style of eating by their mothers—who opened one jar of baby food, fed their infant from that, then closed the jar and fed them from the next jar.

KEITH FROM HOUSTON

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: "Ruminating" eats the way some dietitians recommend: protein first, vegetables second, starch last. That's the healthiest way to eat, especially if you are trying to watch what you eat.

DANA FROM KATY, TEXAS

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Do as I do, and take your eating to the next level. Instead of just consuming every item completely before moving to the next, try eating alphabetically ... mashed potatoes, meatloaf, then your peas.

ORGANIZED IN UTAH

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband eats his least-favorite thing first and ends with his favorite. This was incorporated as a young boy to make sure he cleaned his plate. I suggested as an option that he eat his favorite first and then, when he gets full, he will stop eating, instead of always cleaning his plate. He has lost a few pounds in the process.

WIFE OF HUSBAND FROM
THE CLEAN PLATE CLUB

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Does "Ruminating" know he shares the same style of eating as Albert Einstein? This natural habit is a sign of genius.

SHIRLEY IN BROOKFIELD, WIS.

Studio: 'Avatar' sells 6.7 million DVDs in 4 days

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Avatar" is maintaining its popularity in the move from box office to home video, with sales of 6.7 million DVDs and Blu-ray disks in the first four days.

Twentieth Century Fox an-

nounced Sunday that James Cameron's sci-fi epic has sold 2.7 million Blu-rays and 4 million DVDs since April 22.

The combined sales brought in \$130 million.

The studio says "Avatar" has

become the fastest-selling Blu-ray of all time.

No announcement has been made regarding a 3-D DVD release, but a Fox spokesman said one can be expected in the future.

Dead Poets founder wants day to honor bards

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—A former teacher who founded the Dead Poets Society of America and traveled 15,000 miles (24,000 kilometers) to document the graves of poets has a new mission—to create a Dead Poets Remembrance Day on Oct. 7, the date master of the macabre Edgar Allan Poe died.

Amateur poet Walter Skold of Freeport, Maine, launched his new endeavor Friday, beginning a 22-state tour of the graves of fallen bards. He's enlisted 13 current and former state poets laureate to help drum up support.

His "Dead Poets Grand Tour 2010" kicks off on what's believed to be the anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth in 1564 with a poetry reading at Portland's Eastern Cemetery, the burial place of British and American sea captains cited in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "My Lost Youth."

"Of course, it takes a little chutzpah to say we're starting a holiday," said Skold, who left his job as a public school technology teacher to pursue his passions of poetry and photography. "But we believe it's a really good idea, and we hope it catches on nationwide."

As in last year's tour, Skold will drive a boxy cargo van, dubbed the Poemobile, to graveyards. But this year, the 49-year-

old Skold will be accompanied by a couple from Georgia who will film the journey for a documentary they hope to make.

Having learned from past mistakes, Skold sought permission from cemeteries ahead of time so there's no suspicion about satanic rituals or disrespectful behavior.

The idea of a day of remembrance was inspired by Skold's discovery that the nation's literary forebears have been neglected. Communities have readings at the graves of Poe, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Anne Sexton and other famous poets, but many others are in danger of being forgotten, he said.

Wisconsin's poet laureate, Marilyn L. Taylor, said Dead Poets Remembrance Day is a wonderful idea.

"There's all kinds of commemorative dates for things like National Potato Week or something like that," she said. "And I think it's time that the poets got some recognition."

Tennessee's poet laureate, Margaret Vaughn, noted that April is National Poetry Month. She said it would be nice to have a day set aside to honor poets, as well.

"When people write speeches, it's poets that they quote most of the time," she said. "I think to take one day to really recognize them would be great."

Since founding the Dead Poets Society of America in 2008, Skold and others have documented the final resting places of hundreds of poets. All told, he has a list of the graves of more than 600 American poets.

To drum up interest in documenting poets' graves, a photo and video contest will offer \$4,000 in prize money, said Skold, whose society's name was partly inspired by the 1989 Robin Williams movie "Dead Poets Society," about an unconventional English teacher who inspires his boarding school students to love poetry.

For the trip, Skold has printed T-shirts with a rock tour-style list of stops, including Abraham Lincoln's tomb in Springfield, Illinois; the Poe Museum in Richmond, Virginia, and the Swan Point Cemetery in Providence, Rhode Island, where Poe courted poet Sarah Helen Whitman. The farthest west he'll go is Iowa City, Iowa. Eventually, he hopes his travels reach West Coast cities.

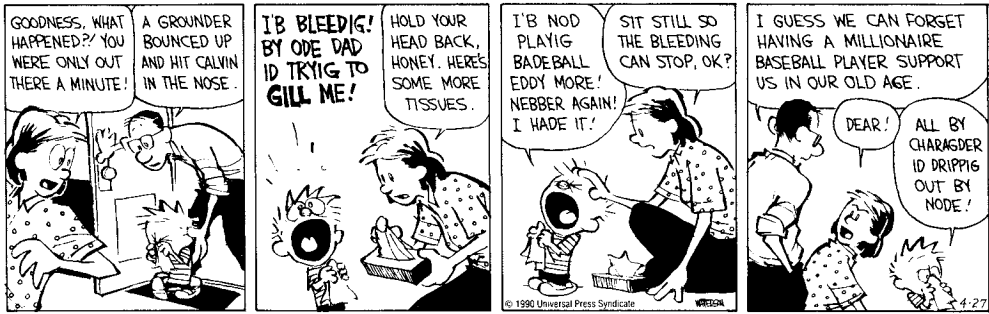
Skold insists the graveyard events are about history and celebrating the lives of the poets, but he's not above a little graveyard humor. The society's motto is: "We Dig Dead Poets ... You Dig?"

Modern poets dig the attention he's generating.

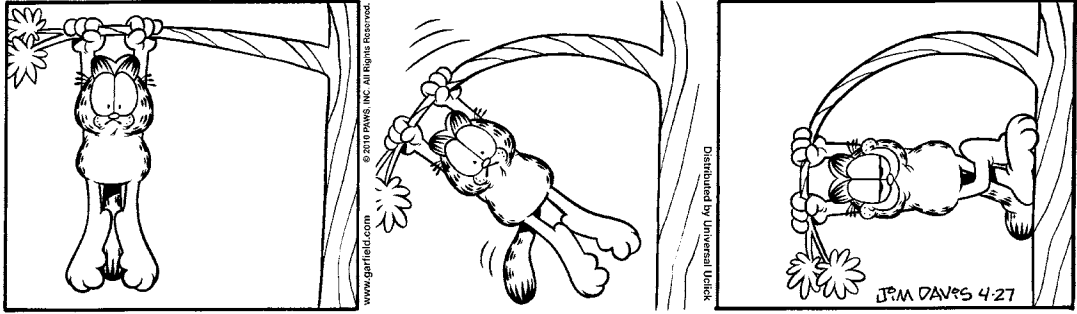
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Have on
- 5 Taxi
- 8 Distort
- 12 "It's a Sin to Tell —"
- 13 Eggs
- 14 "Do — others ..."
- 15 Jeff Probst's show
- 17 Nevada city
- 18 Thickness
- 19 Morning moisture
- 20 Sandwich necessity
- 21 Adjective for 22-Down
- 22 Adversary
- 23 Debate
- 26 Prime Minister's street
- 30 Norse thunder god
- 31 Carton
- 32 Defeat decisively
- 33 Greedy
- 35 Tilts
- 36 Lingerie item
- 37 Otologist's subject

DOWN

- 38 What Nixon denied being
- 41 Over-active one?
- 42 Center
- 45 Tibetan monk
- 46 Take unawares
- 48 Gray hair cause
- 49 Favorite
- 50 Looked at
- 51 Repair
- 52 Blond shade
- 53 Root beer brand
- 1 Nasty stinger
- 2 Hebrew month
- 3 Ethereal
- 4 Gun the engine
- 5 Small flock
- 6 Acknowledge
- 7 Tavern
- 8 Cry uncle
- 9 Dandling site
- 10 Sicilian spouter
- 11 Unfinished furniture?
- 16 Between assignments
- 20 Acknowledge applause
- 21 "Hanging ten" need
- 22 Hounds' prey, perhaps
- 23 "Monty Python" opener
- 24 That girl
- 25 Scale member
- 26 Homer's interjection
- 27 A Gershwin
- 28 Sister
- 29 "Pygmalion" playwright's monogram
- 31 Merit badge org.
- 34 Annoy
- 35 Genie's quarters
- 37 Third rock from the sun
- 38 Untalkative one
- 39 Anger
- 40 Portent
- 41 Colors
- 42 Casual greeting
- 43 Second-hand
- 44 Foundations
- 46 Hot tub
- 47 Roulette bet

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-27

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sheena Easton, 51; Ace Frehley, 59; Anouk Aimee, 78; Casey Kasem, 78

Happy Birthday: You'll be able to pick up valuable information this year that will help you get ahead personally, professionally and financially. Impulsiveness and impatience will be an issue but, if you can put that energy into something constructive, the sky is the limit. Don't let someone else's uncertainty slow you down or cloud your vision. Your numbers are 3, 11, 19, 21, 23, 30, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Speak freely about the way you feel and what you want to see unfold. You will get some honest, helpful input. Your intuition and ability to deal with red tape and partnership matters will enable you to finish a project from a long time ago. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may find an interesting idea with which you want to participate. Your contributions will be welcome. A short business trip will bring good results and give you greater confidence in what you are doing. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Something you do that is out of the ordinary will capture attention and will be the deciding factor regarding your future. Make a commitment and follow through with perfection, precision and a charismatic presentation. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may not relish the thought of trying something new or making a geographical change but the bonus that comes with being adaptable will allow you far greater creative opportunities. Don't let your emotions rule your head. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Opposition will leave you questioning whether or not you are doing the right thing. You won't be able to please everyone but you, above everyone else, have to live with your decisions. Once you are happy with your choices, everything will fall into place. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The more you find out and can adapt to something you want to pursue, the better equipped you will be when the time comes. Get everything in order but do not make your move until you feel confident you have not overlooked any details. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): There is a chance to turn a friendship into a unique type of partnership. Your finances will be affected by a decision you make. Before you decide, consider which choice will help to eliminate the pressure you are feeling. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The questions you've been asking in the past will come back to haunt you if you haven't found a suitable answer. You do need to undergo some changes in your life. Be sure before you venture down a path of no return. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Drum up a little excitement and get others to participate in one of your plans. The more hype you create, the more pressure will be put on you to obtain positive results. Don't promise anything you cannot deliver. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take a back

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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seat and a wait and watch attitude. Something does not add up and you don't want to get caught in the crossfire. Don't give in to someone or something based on your emotions. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be able to use your assets to get what you want or to clear up an old debt. Taking care of your responsibilities will encourage others to deal with you more readily. Don't let someone from your past come back into your life. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Reinvent what you do or how you do things. Look at your attributes and combine them with what you enjoy most. Being responsible and admitting to past mistakes will help you move forward now. ***

Birthday Baby: You are stubborn and always try to finish what you start. You are always ready to take control and get things done. You don't give in easily.

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STUMPED?

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

5	9	8	3	4	6	2	1	7
2	3	6	7	8	1	9	5	4
1	7	4	9	5	2	8	3	6
8	2	7	1	6	3	5	4	9
6	4	1	2	9	5	7	8	3
3	5	9	4	7	8	1	6	2
7	6	2	8	1	4	3	9	5
9	1	5	6	3	7	4	2	8
4	8	3	5	2	9	6	7	1

Difficulty Level ★★

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WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

J.D. SALINGER (1919-2010) Solution: 9 letters

S L E V O N C E M T S E N R E
W L O M A E R A D C L I F F E
C H L F O R V E T I T N I ® P
P I I E O R I I A C T E N Y L
L I G T W X E O S D H O N ® O
A O H A L X H J N U E E R I T
N O T S M V A O G I L R R S N
S W S N I G E M L I H C S U A
R W E E E U I N V E R T E D E
C E N L G D A Y A F T L E R G
L N T E T E L R O I D F N D R
A K N I K E T O M T V A A O E
I E S I R O R T H Y L L V R S
R E K L A W R S Y O G A Y I C
E T T E N R U B U D D Y W S D

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Army, Broken, Buddy, Burnett, Catcher, Claire, Craft, David, Doris, Editors, Ernest, Eugene, Foxhole, Girl, Heart, Holden, Inverted, Jerome, Knew, Lights, Magic, Maxwell, Nine, Novels, Plans, Plot, Print, Radcliffe, Readers, Reclusive, Rise, Roof, Rye, Seen, Sergeant, Ship, Story, Sylvia, Varioni, Vienna, Walker, Walt, Welter, Whit, Writer, Yoga

Yesterday's Answer: Project

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Wade scores 46, Heat stay alive with win



MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade watched the 3-pointer drop perfectly through the net, then turned upcourt and extended the fingers on his right hand.

And he screamed.

"In kid-friendly terms,"

Wade would say later, "I was telling him he was hot."

That hand—that player—had never been hotter in a postseason game, either. And that's why Miami's season isn't over.

Playing what might have been his final game in Miami, Wade scored 46 points, 30 in the second half—both franchise records—and the Heat beat the Boston Celtics 101-92 on Sunday in Game 4 of their Eastern Conference first-round series. He made 16-of-24 shots, 5 of 7 from 3-point range, and outscored the Celtics 19-15 in the fourth quarter.

"Phenomenal," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said.

"Greatness," offered Heat coach Erik Spoelstra.

Heat forward Quentin Richardson went even further, likening his teammate to a superhero.

"Sometimes, you know, he puts on the cape, man," Richardson said. "There's not a lot of things you can do when he's playing that way."

Boston would concur.

The Celtics still lead the best-of-seven 3-1, and get a chance to close it out in Boston on Tuesday night. But their worst fear came true Sunday.

Miami has hope.

"They did what they were supposed to do, which is defend the home court," Celtics forward Kevin Garnett said. "And now we're thinking the same thing going back home."

Richardson scored 20 points and Michael Beasley added 15 for the Heat, who wasted an 18-point, first-half lead before digging deep to extend the season.

Rajon Rondo led the Celtics with 23 points. Garnett had 18 points and 12 rebounds, Paul Pierce scored 16 and Ray Allen added 15 for Boston, which was bidding for its first 4-0 sweep of a series since 1986.

"It's not a big deal," Rondo said. "We just have to close it out now in five. We're confident."

So is Miami.

Especially Wade.

Leg cramps kept him off the court for the deciding moment of Game 3, the jumper that Pierce hit at the buzzer to give the Celtics a 100-98 win. So he spent Saturday getting his body right, chugging fluids, jumping into the cold

tank, hanging out in the pool with his mother Jolinda, visiting from Chicago.

On Sunday, it showed, never more than down the stretch.

He shot 5 for 6 in the fourth quarter and made all four 3-pointers, all coming in a 5-minute stretch and the last putting Miami up 93-82 with 6:12 remaining.

"I just thought, time to be aggressive," Wade said. "Very aggressive. So I was shooting all those shots, no matter what was going to happen. And I started to make a couple, so I got hot at the right time. Just wanted to will my team to this victory."

Of course, it's never easy for Miami against Boston.

The Celtics were 6-0 against Miami this season, and had won 14 of the last 15 between the clubs since April 2007. And yes, Boston made a big run, getting within 96-92 on a free throw by Allen with 2:36 left.

Then a funny thing happened.

Or, more precisely, three funny things.

Not only did Allen—a 91 percent foul shooter this season—miss the second, he missed two more with 1:50 left, keeping it a two-possession game. And when Dorell Wright missed a jumper with 1:29 left, Beasley swooped in, got the rebound and scored, making it 98-92.

Exhale, Miami. The season will go until at least Tuesday.

Wade will opt to become a free agent after the season, and on the slim chance that this was his final home game in Miami, it was nothing short of scintillating.

"He just put it all on his shoulders," Pierce said. "And did a good job of it."

Trailing by six entering the final quarter and needing a rally to keep the season alive, Miami opened the fourth on a 25-8 run, fueled mostly by Wade. He hit a pair of 3-pointers about a minute apart, stopping after the second one to scream at his right hand, giving Miami an 85-80 lead.

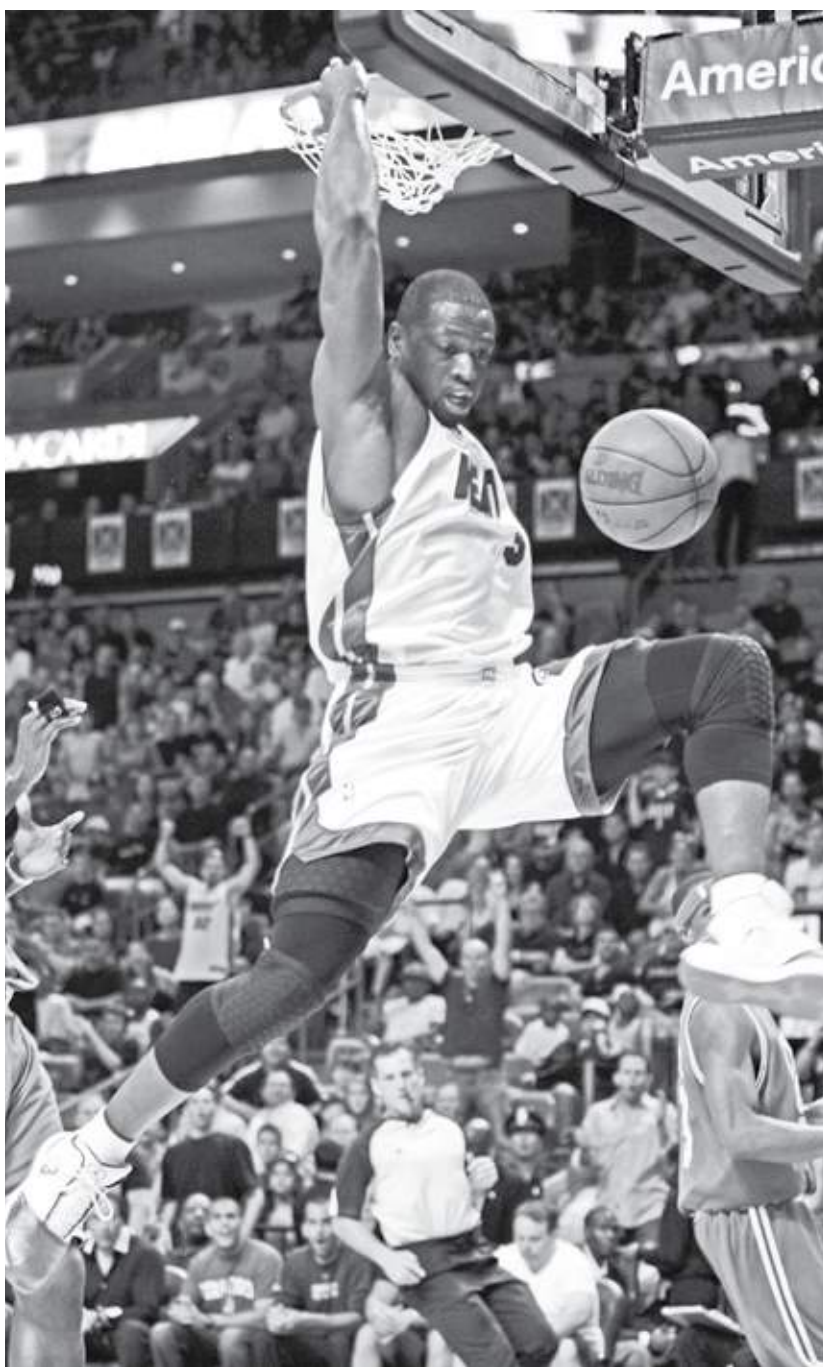
"When his back is against the wall," Spoelstra said, "it's an utter defiance."

Miami played that way pretty much all day.

Garnett scored the opening basket, only to have Miami reel off the next 12 points. Richardson made his first four shots, three of them from 3-point range, staking Miami to a 15-5 lead.

Wade scored 14 in the first, Richardson ended up with 13, and the Heat seemed well on their way, up 31-14 late in the opening quarter.

That duo combined for two in the second quarter, though, and Boston began chipping away.



Miami Heat forward Dwyane Wade dunks the ball in the first half against the Boston Celtics in Game 4 during the first round of the NBA basketball series in Miami, Sunday, April 25, 2010.

Thanks in large part to Glen Davis tripping over his own feet and tumbling to the court in a green heap, Beasley had an alley-oop dunk with 8 minutes left until halftime, putting Miami up 42-24.

The rest of the half was all Boston, which quickly turned the arena mood from celebratory to concerned. The Celtics outscored Miami 19-7 to close the second quarter, with the Heat making six turnovers and missing eight of their next nine shots after the Beasley dunk, and the lead was down to only 49-43 at the break.

"They played how they were supposed to play," Allen said.

In the third, Wade did the spectacular. Boston did the steady, which

worked better.

Wade drove past Allen down the middle of the lane, dunked over the outstretched arm of Garnett and walked into the second row of seats, tying the game at 64 as the crowd roared.

But Garnett, Pierce, Allen and Rondo all had big baskets late in the third, and the Celtics took a 77-71 edge into the final 12 minutes.

But the fourth, thanks to Wade, was all Miami.

"I'm a rhythm player," Wade said. "And once I get in that rhythm, I think I can make any shot."

Each Heat player had a sheet of paper at his locker when he arrived Sunday, the words "Easy vs. Hard" typed across the top.

"Making everyone go to Boston," the sheet said, "is hard."

And it was.

Getting the Celtics to fly back to Miami will be even tougher.

Cavaliers 121, Bulls 98

At Chicago, LeBron James had 37 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists, while Antawn Jamison scored 24 points as the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Chicago Bulls to take a 3-1 lead in their first-round NBA playoff series.

The Cavaliers led by 10 at halftime after scoring 38 in the second quarter and broke it open with a 37-point third, putting them in position to close it out at home on Tuesday.

James was at it again after scoring 40 and 39 the previous two games, connecting almost whenever he wanted and from wherever he wanted. He was 6 of 9 on 3-pointers, including a jumper from just inside midcourt at the end of the third that made it 99-76.

Chicago got 21 apiece from Derrick Rose and Joakim Noah, who also pulled down 20 rebounds, but the Bulls are on the verge of their second straight first-round exit.

Spurs 92, Mavericks 89

At San Antonio, George Hill scored 29 points, helping the Spurs overcome a miserable night from Tim Duncan and take a 3-1 lead over Dallas in its first-round series.

The Spurs have won three straight since coach Gregg Popovich criticized some of his players and they've put the No. 2-seeded Mavs on the edge of their third first-round exit in four years.

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Dallas.

Dirk Nowitzki and Caron Butler had 17 apiece for Dallas, the NBA's best road team during the regular season. But the Mavs couldn't leave San Antonio with a win, and they have to push the series to a Game 6 to earn another shot.

Jazz 117, Nuggets 106

At Salt Lake City, Carlos Boozer had 31 points and 13 rebounds, while Deron Williams added 24 points and 13 assists as the Utah Jazz held off a late charge to beat Denver for a 3-1 lead in the Western Conference playoff series.

Carmelo Anthony finished with 39 points and led the Nuggets back within range late in the fourth quarter, but the Nuggets never caught all the way up and lost for the third straight time in the series.

Game 5 is Wednesday in Denver, where the Nuggets will need to win at home to stay alive.

AVONDALE, La. (AP)—For Jason Bohn, the second time was even better.

Bohn won the Zurich Classic on Sunday for his second PGA Tour title, birdieing three of the final four holes at TPC Louisiana for a 5-under 67 and a two-stroke victory over Jeff Overton.

"This is life changing," said the 37-year-old Bohn, who admitted making his putt on 18 with tears in his eyes.

Bohn, who completed a third-round 71 in the morning in the weather-plagued tournament, finished at 18-under 270. He also won the 2005 B.C. Open.

Sunday's victory, coming as it did after a variety of injuries and back surgery, was especially sweet, Bohn said.

Bohn wins Zurich Classic by 2 strokes

He told his caddie at the start of the final round he was planning on a quiet round.

"I just said I probably wouldn't say much because I'm capturing all of this," Bohn said. "I want to take this one to the grave. I want to remember every little detail that I missed on my first one."

Bohn led since his 65 in the opening round, but admitted he felt the heat Sunday as several players moved into range.



Overton mounted a persistent challenge, twice tying Bohn on his way to a 66.

"Jeff was playing beautifully. He played beautiful golf today," Bohn said. "I would say almost perfect."

Overton birdied the 18th - after missing a long eagle putt, but Bohn, who made birdie putts of 5 1/2 feet on No. 15 and 22 feet on No. 16, had to only tap in on 18 for his fifth birdie of the round.

Overton said he played great Sunday, but Bohn was unbelievable.

"The final four holes, I maybe got a little quick with putts," Overton said. "Maybe because I wanted it so much."

Troy Merritt (67) was third at 14 under. He was 7 under during a seven-hole stretch that ended at No. 13, making five birdies and an eagle.

"It's fun when you're making a lot of red numbers," Merritt said. "Especially when they're back to back to back to back."

Lee Janzen (69) was another stroke back, and Greg Chalmers (69) was 12 under.

Heavy rain and lightning Friday and again Saturday morning delayed the early rounds. Bohn, who led wire-to-wire, played 24 holes Saturday and 30 Sunday. He had seven birdies and one bogey in his 30 holes Sunday.

Bohn completed his third round on Sunday morning at 13 under, two shots ahead of Alex Cejka. Overton and Janzen went into the final round at 10 under.

Bohn earned \$1,152,000 after making \$395,321 in his previous eight starts this year. In 1992, he won \$1 million in a hole-in-one contest while a student at the University of Alabama. He has received \$50,000 a year since then.

Price throws 4-hitter in Rays win



ST. PETERSBURG, Florida

(AP)—David Price threw a four-hitter for his first complete game, while John Jaso and Jason Bartlett had two RBIs apiece as the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Toronto Blue Jays 6-0 on Sunday.

Price (3-1) struck out nine and walked one. He improved to 9-1 in his career against the AL East.

Carlos Pena opened the fifth by drawing Tampa Bay's sixth walk off Brandon Morrow (1-2) and then went to third when B.J. Upton got the Rays first hit, a double to right. After Pat Burrell struck out, Jaso hit a two-run single.

Blue Jays catcher Jose Molina threw out a runner trying to steal second—including Carl Crawford twice—in each of the first four innings. The four runners thrown out attempting to steal in the same game by Molina set a Toronto team record.

It was the first time a catcher has thrown out four runners attempting to steal in one game since Florida's Charles Johnson did it against Montreal on Sept. 18, 2002.

Angels 8, Yankees 4

At Anaheim, Bobby Abreu and Kendry Morales homered and Brandon Wood drove in the go-ahead runs with a bases-loaded double as the Angels handed New York its first series loss of the season.

Scott Kazmir (2-1) gave up two home runs—including his third to Robinson Cano this season—but got the win after allowing four runs, three hits and four walks in 5 1-3 innings.

Javier Vazquez (1-3) threw 78 pitches in just 3 2-3 innings, giving up five runs, five hits and three walks. The 33-year-old right-hander hasn't made it through the sixth in any of his four starts, surrendering 20 runs in 20 innings.

New York had won its first five series, including a three-game set against the Angels in the Bronx.

White Sox 3, Mariners 2

At Chicago, Paul Konerko hit a tie-breaking drive in the eighth inning for his major league-best eighth homer as the White Sox completed a three-game series sweep.

John Danks pitched eight sharp innings for Chicago, allowing two runs and eight hits. Danks (3-0) was coming off a strong eight-inning outing in a victory over Tampa Bay.

After consecutive days of game-ending homers by Andruw Jones and Alex Rios, Konerko connected against Brandon League (2-1) to put the White Sox ahead 3-2. He has homered in three straight games.

Royals 4, Twins 3

At Kansas City, Jose Guillen homered and drove in two runs to support Brian Bannister and help the Royals avoid a three-game sweep.

Guillen hit his seventh homer in the fifth inning and Bannister (1-1) escaped a baserunner-filled game by scattering nine hits over 6 1-3 innings. Kansas City's beleaguered bullpen had some shaky moments before Joakim Soria closed out the ninth for his fifth save.

Justin Morneau hit his fourth homer and had a run-scoring double off Soria in the ninth, but the Twins stranded 12 runners—four in the last two innings.

Orioles 7, Red Sox 6, 10 innings

At Boston, Rhys Hughes singled in the go-ahead run in the 10th inning and Matt Wieters followed with a two-run single, helping Baltimore snap a 10-game losing streak against the Red Sox with its third win of the season.

Miguel Tejada added a two-run homer for Baltimore, which overcame a 4-1 deficit to avoid its fourth straight series sweep against the Red Sox.

Jim Johnson (1-1) allowed two runs in the bottom of the 10th, and had to leave with runners on first and second. Cla Meredith got the final two outs for his first save.

Rangers 8, Tigers 4

At Arlington, Michael Young had three hits and drove in five runs and David Murphy homered for Texas.

Colby Lewis (3-0) threw 50 pitches and allowed eight baserunners in the first two innings before settling down, getting 16 consecutive outs from the second through the seventh.

Lewis allowed four runs and seven hits over 6 1-3 innings while matching a career high with 10 strikeouts.

Tigers rookie Austin Jackson hit his first major league homer, leading off the game with a 410-foot shot.

Athletics 11, Indians 0

At Oakland, Eric Chavez hit a two-run double and also singled in a run to help Gio Gonzalez win for the first time in three starts.

Eric Patterson homered and hit a two-run triple, matching his career high with three RBIs.

Kevin Kouzmanoff returned to the A's lineup and added a three-run double. He sat out Saturday to give him time to heal after fouling a pitch off his foot. Kouzmanoff's fifth-inning hit chased Justin Masterson (0-3).

Gonzalez (2-1) gave up five hits in seven innings.

Reds 5, Padres 4

At Cincinnati, Ramon Hernandez hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the eighth inning as the Cincinnati Reds rallied to end the San Diego Padres' eight-game winning streak with a victory.

Francisco Cordero got former Reds utility Jerry Hairston Jr. to fly out to center with runners on first and third to end the game for his seventh save.

Jay Bruce had three hits and Scott Rolen hit his fifth homer for Cincinnati, which managed only four runs in the first two games of the series.

Arthur Rhodes (1-1) pitched a perfect eighth inning for the victory.

Adrian Gonzalez hit a two-run drive for San Diego and has homered in four consecutive games.

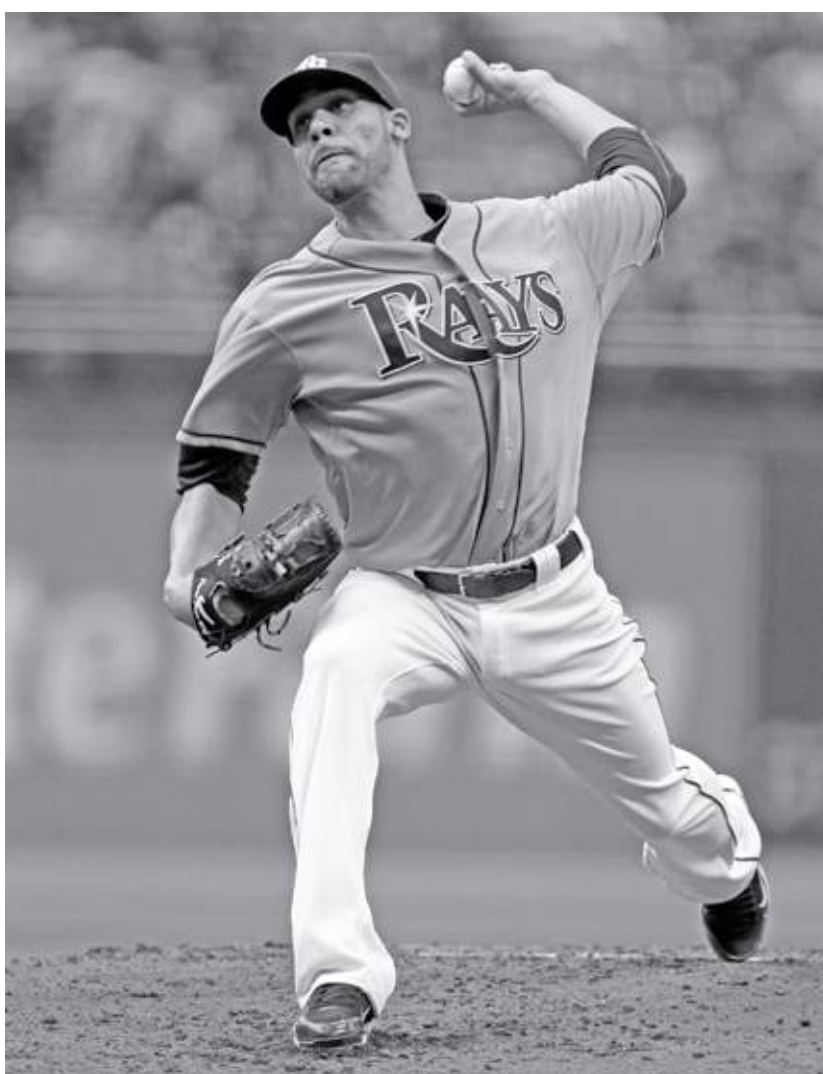
Mike Adams (0-1) got the loss.

Cardinals 2, Giants 0

At San Francisco, Brad Penny, Jason Motte and Ryan Franklin combined for a nine-hitter and Albert Pujols hit his team-leading seventh homer, helping St. Louis avoid a series sweep.

Penny (3-0) gave up eight hits over 7 2-3 innings while outpitching former teammate Matt Cain. Penny, who played for San Francisco in 2009, didn't allow a runner past second base while lowering his ERA to 0.94.

Pablo Sandoval and Andres Torres



Tampa Bay Rays starting pitcher David Price throws in the fourth inning of his complete game 6-0 shutout of the Toronto Blue Jays in a baseball game Sunday, April 25, 2010, in St. Petersburg, Fla. AP

had three hits apiece for the Giants, who were shut out for the second time in five games.

Pujols hit a hanging slider from Cain (0-1) into the left-field stands in the first inning.

Nationals 1, Dodgers 0

At Washington, Scott Olsen pitched seven strong innings for his first victory since having shoulder surgery in July, leading the Nationals to victory.

Chad Billingsley (1-1) allowed one run and four hits in six innings for Los Angeles.

Adam Dunn drove in the only run of the game with a groundout in the first.

Olsen (1-1) allowed six hits, walked one and struck out eight in his third start since being recalled from Triple-A Syracuse on April 15.

Tyler Clippard worked the eighth and Matt Capps finished the seven-hitter for his major league-leading eighth save.

Cubs 12, Brewers 2

At Milwaukee, Derrek Lee hit a towering 445-foot homer and Ryan Theriot

had five hits to help the Cubs complete the three-game sweep.

Randy Wells (2-0) continued Chicago's string of strong starting pitching performances, allowing two runs in seven innings.

Kosuke Fukudome, Tyler Colvin and Geovany Soto also homered for the Cubs, who scored nine times in the first four innings and finished with 18 hits. Theriot went 5 of 6 with three RBIs and is 14 of 25 in his last five games.

Dave Bush (1-1) lasted just 3 2-3 innings for Milwaukee. He was charged with nine runs, seven earned, and 10 hits.

Rockies 8, Marlins 4

At Denver, Seth Smith homered twice as Colorado beat Florida after attending an emotional Coors Field memorial service for team president Keli McGregor.

Several thousand people attended the pregame ballpark services for McGregor, 48, who passed away unexpectedly last week. He was found unconscious in a hotel room on Tuesday and later pronounced dead.

Jorge De La Rosa (3-1) pitched five

solid innings and Miguel Olivo also homered for the Rockies.

Chris Volstad (1-2) gave up seven runs and seven hits in 4 1-3 innings for Florida.

Diamondbacks 8, Phillies 6

At Phoenix, Mark Reynolds hit a tie-breaking RBI double in the eighth inning and finished with three hits, including a three-run homer, to lead Arizona.

Reynolds had a season-high four RBIs and Chris Young added three hits, including two doubles, for Arizona. The Diamondbacks equaled a season high with 15 hits, which also was the most allowed by the Phillies this year.

Leo Rosales (2-0) earned the win. Chad Qualls worked a perfect ninth for his fourth save.

Reynolds' clutch hit came off of David Herndon (0-1) and gave Arizona the series win after losing three straight sets.

Greg Dobbs hit a two-run homer and Carlos Ruiz drove in two runs for the Phillies.

Astros 10, Pirates 3

At Houston, Lance Berkman hit his first home run and Carlos Lee and Pedro Feliz drove in two runs apiece as Houston completed a three-game sweep of Pittsburgh.

Brett Myers (1-1) allowed 11 singles and struck out six in six innings and Michael Bourn tied a single-game career high with three steals. The Astros have won eight of 10 games after losing their first eight.

Charlie Morton (0-4) gave up five runs and five hits in three innings for the Pirates, who've lost six in a row. Morton has allowed 24 earned runs in 13 1-3 innings this season.

Mets 1, Braves 0, 6 innings, rain

At New York, Mike Pelfrey pitched out of constant trouble to extend his scoreless streak to 24 innings as the Mets finished a three-game sweep of the slumping Braves in a game cut short by rain.

A throwing error by third baseman Chipper Jones allowed Jose Reyes to score in the first inning. Play was stopped after one pitch in the sixth when rain intensified, and the game was called following a 98-minute delay.

Tommy Hanson (1-2) did not give up an earned run as Atlanta lost its fifth straight. The Braves have been outscored 19-6 during their skid.

They squandered several early scoring chances against Pelfrey (4-0), lifted after throwing 106 pitches through five innings.

Vikings add on offense, defense but no QB



EDENPRAIRIE, Minn.

(AP)—Nate Triplett has spent his entire life in Minnesota. That won't change as he begins his professional career in the NFL.

The Minnesota Vikings drafted the hard-nosed linebacker with the 167th overall pick in the fifth round on Saturday, the first time they've drafted a Gophers player since Tyrone Carter in 2000.

The Vikings also drafted Southern Cal defensive end Everson Griffin in the fourth round, Wake Forest guard Chris DeGeare in the fifth round, UAB quarterback Joe Webb in the sixth and Penn State tight end Mickey Shuler Jr. and Rutgers inside linebacker Ryan D'Imperio in the seventh.

On Friday, the Vikings spent second-round picks on Virginia cornerback Chris Cook and Stanford running back Toby Gerhart.

This year's draft was focused on taking good players with abilities to contribute on special teams rather than filling specific position needs. If Brett Favre returns to play quarterback, they'll have their entire starting lineup back from the NFC runner-up squad.

"I don't judge drafts until three years down the road, but I think we got some good football players," vice president for player personnel Rick Spielman said.

NEW WINNERS

From Page 28

the other semis pairing, 6-1, 6-2.

The 10-and-under age group also had new champions in Luther Lizama and Carol Lee.

Lizama ruled the 16-player draw boys’ 10-and-and-under division after thwarting first time finalist Clayton Izuka, 6-4. Lizama marched into the finals following a 7-5 triumph in the semis against Michael Ren, while Izuka prevailed in the other semis game over Michael Jones, 6-2. Carl Dela Cruz won last year’s 10-and-under crown, but he had already moved up to the 14-and-under age group this year.

In the girls’ 10-and-under, Carol Lee, who lost to Emily Jones last year, 2-6, was victorious in Sunday’s finals, outclassing Isabel Heras, 6-4. Carol Lee booked a finals ticket after defeating Julia Ishikawa in the semis, 6-1, while Heras took the other finals seat after downing Liza Atalig, 6-4.

In the 18-and-under age group, the favored players lived up to expecta-

tions with Benjie Decena and Thea Minor ruling the boys and girls divisions, respectively.

Minor, who ruled the same age group last year, claimed the girls crown, anew after beating Lila Mailman, 6-1, 6-4. Minor had a straight set win over older sister Theecel in the semis, 6-1, 6-4, while Mailman shut out Amy Arenovski in the other semis game, 6-0, 6-0.

Decena, who missed the action in Week 1, played all his three games last weekend, debuting with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Sung Hoon Ham. In the semifinals, the Tinian netter dueled Daniel Park and won impressively, 6-0, 6-0. Next up for Decena was Rafael Jones and the Tinian player prevailed anew, 6-4, 6-4.

Jones, who won last year’s 14-and-under title, had a hard-earned semis win over Christian Miller, 7-6 (7-2), 6-2, to arrange a finals tiff against Decena. Miller dropped to third place, winning the consolation match against Park, 8-2.

From rivals to teammates, Miller and Park joined forces in the boys’ 18-and-under doubles and swept all four games

(2-7), 17-13 in the first game of last Saturday’s Junior League schedule.

The visiting Northern jumped ahead early and put the Patriots to the test with a five-run first inning.

Jon Lizama led off with a double and was singled in by clean-up batter Frankie Lieto.

Jeremy Atalig reached first off an error and during his at bat, Lieto scored off a wild pitch.

Jason Camacho would later score in Atalig.

Then, Haini Blas and Robert Tude-la both walked and scored off separate errors before the Patriots brought in Jared Sablan to relieve Christian Mizer on the mound to get the third out in first.

With the score still at 5-0, in favor of Northern, the Patriots did not answer until the bottom of the second.

Lucio Kalen drew a walk and was knocked in by Jonathon Villagomez who later scored off an error.

Brandon Phillip reached and scored off errors.

Sablan also reached with an error and was later knocked in by Brett Halstead.

In the top of the third, Blas drew a walk, stole a base, and scored off two bad throws.

With the score at 6-4 in favor of Northern, Patriots came up huge in the bottom of the third with a game changing 10-run inning.

Yochi Krurang and Kalen both walked, stole a base, and were driven in by Villagomez’s two RBI single.

Juljean Ngeskebei hit in Villagomez and after Northern sent in Frankie Norita to replace starting pitcher, Haini Blas, Phillip singled in Ngeskebei.

With Phillip on first, Sablan hit a double to set up Halstead’s two RBI single.

Raymond Saralu and Mizer reached base to join Halstead, who set up a two RBI single by Kalen.

Mizer and Kalen would later score off errors before Northern could close out the third.

in the round-robin tournament to win the championship. Ham and Clay McCullough-Stearns took the runner-up honors with their 2-2 slate.

In the girls’ 18-and-under doubles, the Minor sisters were undefeated in three games to take the championship.

Emily Jones and Adele Hudkins were also unbeaten in three games in the girls’ 12-and-under doubles to win the championship trophy against three other pairs. Heras and Lee settled for the runner-up trophy after a 2-1 record.

The boys’ 12-and-under doubles crown went to Cajigan and Quintin Ramsey, who outclassed Colin Ramsey and Dela Cruz in the finals in three sets, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3.

Meanwhile, the organizing Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association would like to thank the following for supporting the two-weekend tournament: Java Joe’s, Delta Management Corp., Law Offices of Stephen J. Nutting, Deepstar Submarine, Tan Holdings, Marianas Medical Center, Island Apparel, Tano Group Inc., Marianas Trekking, Lee’s Office, Spectrum Electric Inc., and Aces Tennis Academy.

Although they came up short in the end, Northerners displayed a valiant effort as they went through three Patriot pitchers during Saturday’s offensive outing.

With the score at 14-6 after three, Northern fought back to accumulate seven more runs in the last four innings, but every time they trimmed the lead, the Patriots would answer back with just enough to keep them comfortably on top.

Ol’Aces 11, Lions 1

The Ol’Aces (8-2) eased by the winless Kagman Lions (0-10) in five innings as the Lions’ offense continued to struggle in the second game of Saturday’s Junior League match-ups.

In the game, the visiting Lions managed six base runners, but could only bring in one man to score.

The Ol’Aces started the game with three quick runs.

Jonah Flores drew a walk before Jeremy Lizama reached with a base hit.

A.J. Lizama singled in Flores and two runners would come in to score off passed balls.

Ol’Aces would later add another run in the third as Zachary Yamagishi drew a walk, stole a base, and got knocked in by Jesse Santos.

The Ol’Aces continued to pile on runs, scoring four in the fourth and three in the fifth to run rule the Lions 11-1 in five innings.

A.J. Lizama led off the fourth with a hit and B.J. Falig singled him in.

Yamagishi drew a walk and Lancaster Secharmidal later singled in Falig and Yamagishi.

Santos knocked in Secharmidal to give the Ol’Aces an 8-1 lead after four.

In the fifth, Jeremy Lizama belted a homer before A.J. Lizama and Camacho reached base with a hit and a walk.

Yamagishi walked to load the bases and Secharmidal put the Lions away, two innings early, with a game-ending two RBI base hit.

in there and took the win after only five innings on a 10-run mercy rule.

Mabel Ngirngemelas led the Air Flyers with his four RBIs, built on a 3-for-4 performance at bat. He also posted two singles and one triple.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES			
MLB STANDINGS			
AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct GB
Tampa Bay	14	5	.737 —
New York	12	6	.667 1 1/2
Toronto	10	9	.526 4
Boston	8	11	.421 6
Baltimore	3	16	.158 11
Central Division			
Minnesota	13	6	.684 —
Detroit	10	9	.526 3
Cleveland	8	10	.444 4 1/2
Chicago	8	11	.421 5
Kansas City	7	11	.389 5 1/2
West Division			
Oakland	12	8	.600 —
Los Angeles	10	10	.500 2
Seattle	9	10	.474 2 1/2
Texas	8	10	.444 3
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
Philadelphia	11	7	.611 —
Florida	10	9	.526 1 1/2
New York	10	9	.526 1 1/2
Washington	10	9	.526 1 1/2
Atlanta	8	10	.444 3
Central Division			
St. Louis	11	7	.611 —
Chicago	9	10	.474 2 1/2
Houston	8	10	.444 3
Milwaukee	8	10	.444 3
Cincinnati	8	11	.421 3 1/2
Pittsburgh	7	11	.389 4
West Division			
San Diego	11	7	.611 —
San Francisco	10	8	.556 1
Colorado	10	9	.526 1 1/2
Arizona	8	10	.444 3
Los Angeles	8	10	.444 3
Yesterday's Games			
Cincinnati 5, San Diego 4			
Washington 1, L.A. Dodgers 0			
Houston 10, Pittsburgh 3			
Chicago Cubs 12, Milwaukee 2			
St. Louis 2, San Francisco 0			
Arizona 8, Philadelphia 6			
Colorado 8, Florida 4			
N.Y. Mets 1, Atlanta 0, 6 innings			
Baltimore 7, Boston 6, 10 innings			
Tampa Bay 6, Toronto 0			
Chicago White Sox 3, Seattle 2			
Kansas City 4, Minnesota 3			
Texas 8, Detroit 4			
L.A. Angels 8, N.Y. Yankees 4			
Oakland 11, Cleveland 0			
JOSH TEATER (53), \$96,000			
Daniel Chopra (53), \$96,000			70-71-70-69—280 -8
Chad Collins (53), \$96,000			72-70-68-70—280 -8
Michael Connell (53), \$96,000			72-69-73-66—280 -8
Greg Owen (53), \$96,000			76-67-69-68—280 -8
Chris Stroud (47), \$61,897			67-70-71-72—280 -8
Charlie Wi (47), \$61,897			69-72-72-68—281 -7
Ken Duke (0), \$61,897			74-67-71-69—281 -7
Garrett Willis (47), \$61,897			72-70-69-70—281 -7
Mathias Gronberg (47), \$61,897			71-69-72-69—281 -7
John Rollins (47), \$61,897			69-71-67-74—281 -7
Alex Cejka (47), \$61,897			74-68-68-71—281 -7
Steve Flesch (39), \$39,893			70-67-68-76—281 -7
Charley Hoffman (39), \$39,893			70-71-71-70—282 -6
Alex Prugh (39), \$39,893			73-68-70-71—282 -6
Spencer Levin (39), \$39,893			72-70-68-72—282 -6
Aaron Baddeley (39), \$39,893			73-69-70-70—282 -6
Michael Letzig (39), \$39,893			70-72-73-67—282 -6
Cameron Tringale (39), \$39,893			72-68-71-71—282 -6
David Toms (39), \$39,893			69-70-70-73—282 -6
Michael Bradley (39), \$39,893			69-69-69-75—282 -6
Kevin Streelman (32), \$28,160			73-70-71-68—282 -6
Andres Romero (32), \$28,160			71-71-73-68—283 -5
K.J. Choi (32), \$28,160			72-68-76-67—283 -5
Rich Barcelo (32), \$28,160			68-72-70-73—283 -5
Chris Couch (32), \$28,160			69-74-71-69—283 -5
Shaun Micheel (32), \$28,160			67-71-68-77—283 -5
Justin Rose (24), \$18,701			70-67-72-74—283 -5
Charles Howell III (24), \$18,701			70-72-72-70—284 -4
Arjun Atwal (24), \$18,701			68-73-69-74—284 -4
Nick O'Hern (24), \$18,701			71-71-68-74—284 -4
Ryuji Imada (24), \$18,701			70-70-73-71—284 -4
Carlos Franco (24), \$18,701			71-70-71-72—284 -4
Bubba Watson (24), \$18,701			70-72-71-71—284 -4
Cameron Percy (24), \$18,701			71-71-75-67—284 -4
Billy Mayfair (24), \$18,701			73-70-69-72—284 -4
John Senden (24), \$18,701			74-69-68-73—284 -4
Rory Sabbatini (17), \$14,816			67-69-75-73—284 -4
David Duval (17), \$14,816			69-72-70-74—285 -3
Tom Pernice, Jr. (17), \$14,816			68-72-72-73—285 -3
Andrew McLardy (17), \$14,816			69-74-68-74—285 -3
Jeff Klauk (12), \$14,208			72-71-71-71—285 -3
Kevin Stadler (12), \$14,208			70-72-68-76—286 -2
Chris Tidland (12), \$14,208			70-70-72-74—286 -2
Brenden Pappas (12), \$14,208			72-70-73-72—287 -1
Brian Davis (12), \$14,208			71-71-73-72—287 -1
John Merrick (7), \$13,568			71-71-72-73—287 -1
Ted Purdy (7), \$13,568			71-72-70-74—287 -1
Troy Matteson (7), \$13,568			72-70-72-75—289 +1
Joe Ogilvie (7), \$13,568			71-72-69-77—289 +1
Skip Kendall (7), \$13,568			71-72-70-74—287 -1
Tom Gillis (3), \$13,056			72-70-72-75—289 +1
Brenden Pappas (3), \$13,056			71-72-69-77—289 +1
Jerry Kelly (3), \$13,056			71-72-70-76—289 +1
Sergio Garcia (1), \$12,736			73-69-72-76—290 +2
Craig Bowden (1), \$12,736			69-74-71-76—290 +2
Phil Schmitt (0), \$12,544			74-67-77-73—291 +3
Mark Hensby (1), \$12,416			71-72-72-78—293 +5
Brad Faxon (1), \$12,288			69-74-75-78—296 +8
FedExCup points in parentheses			
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS			
LOCAL SCORES			
BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS			
Man Amigos	16	2	
Natibu	16	1	
Island Rebels	15	2	
SaiPal	15	3	
Chura	13	4	
Ur Balls	12	5	
X-Terminators 11	8		
San Roque	11	6	
Freedom Air Flyers	10	7	
Hitz	10	7	
Calikano-Falcons	9	9	
6-Pack	7	10	
Berdax	7	9	
Go For Broke	7	11	
Blazers	6	12	
Red Eye	4	14	
Lancheros	3	12	
G-Ballers	3	14	
Ramblers	3	14	
Team Familia	2	14	
Team Fuego	1	16	

BUTCH

From Page 28

pursuer, timing in at 1:02:40. Kimiko Hasegawa came in second at 1:04:13, while Jackie Van Dam finished third, submitting 1:07:36.

In the short course, only nine seconds separated first finisher Adrin Ana and runner-up Nap Pizon. Ana timed in at 41:13, while Pizon clocked in at 41:22. Harold Baloma completed the Top 3, posting 41:33. The short course also began at Paupau and had riders going to Banzai, Grotto trail, turning right to ride on the road and back to Paupau.

The women’s division crown in the short course belonged to Angie Mister, who recorded 1:07:12, more than three minutes ahead of second placer Cheri Ferguson (1:10:26). Kathryn Barry came in third at 1:22:55.

The race, which Carey organized to raise fund for her campaign in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau this August, drew 67 bikers, including those

who participated in the kids race. The kids race had riders biking around the Paupau parking lot and finishers were awarded certificates of completion at the end of the event.

Two kid riders—Logan Mister and Alexander Batement—were eligible to race in the kids course, but opted to compete against the adults in the short course and completed the race.

“The race had a great turnout. It was nice to see many riders this morning and I was overwhelmed by their support. I hope that everyone had a great time,” Carey said.

“I would like to say thank you to all sponsors, PIC, Big Dipper, Mai Thai Restaurant, Yu Yu Spa, Golds Gym, Brabu, Country House, Midori Yakkyoku, Expressions, Triple J, Shenanigans, MVA,UMDA, and Palms Resort. Thank you too to volunteers Joshua and Mami Berger, Suzy Kindel, Kieran Daly, and to the parents who helped in the kids race. I will think all of your support when I compete in the Micro Games and will to do my best in Palau,” she added.

X-TERMINATORS

From Page 28

Freedom Air 17, Team Familia 6

In the last game of the night, Freedom Air beat Team Familia, 17-6.

After a deadlock in the first inning, 2-2, Freedom Air logged seven runs at the bottom of the second inning to seize control of the match. Freedom Air hung

2010 NMIFA Women 11 Aside Spring League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Above, Matansa and MP United players exchange hi-fives after the game.

Members of Matansa women's team pose with their championship trophy.

The women's committee members and officers lead the awarding of the championship trophy to Matansa.



MP United's Carrie Knight stops the ball.



Matansa strikers walk toward the bleachers after their game against the Independents.



MP United's Nikki Gabaldon kicks the ball during a game against Matansa.



Paire's Zoe Jewell, left, in action against MP United's Nola Hix during a regular season game in the 2010 NMIFA Women 11 Aside Spring League at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



Paire's Patricia Coleman tries to keep the ball in their possession.



Independents players watch from outside the field and cheer for Matansa and MP United.

Paire's Brenda Schultz getting ready for a header.



Wade scores 46,
Heat stay alive
with win

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

New winners in junior tennis tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The first place trophies at stake in the 2010 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships went to new hands at the conclusion of the two-weekend tournament on Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis court.

In the boys' 14-and-under division, Jake Lee, who came in third place last year, finished on top of the field this time, beating Chris Cajigan in the finals, 6-3, 6-4. Lee advanced to the title match after a three-set win over Angelo Jones, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4. Cajigan, who was a semifinalist last year, gained a finals seat this time after edging Tommy Choi, 6-2, 6-0.

In the girls' 14-and-under finals, Mikayla Lopez dethroned 2009 champion Melody Johnson, 7-6, 6-4. Lopez, who debuted in the junior championships this year, but had already won a couple of 14-and-under crowns, made it to the finals after a 6-1, 6-2 semis win over Jeane Bracken. Johnson earned a return trip to the finals after surviving Negahr Rastguay in

See NEW WINNERS on Page 26



Jake Lee returns to Chris Cajigan during their title game in the boys' 12-and-under singles division of the 2010 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships Sunday at the AMP tennis court. Lee won, 6-3, 6-4.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

X-Terminators survive scare

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Advance X-Terminators foiled Ramblers' bid for an upset pulling off a come-from-behind 16-13 win in their game in the Chamolinian Softball Association's 2009 Budweiser Slow-pitch Softball League on Friday night at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

The X-Terminators trailed after five and a half innings, 12-13, before Dennis Ngeskebei hit a two-run single and Poland Masaharu had a sacrifice fly to put Advance in the driver's seat at the bottom of the sixth, 16-13. Advance's fourth run in the sixth inning was off a fielder's choice.

At the top of the seventh, no Ramblers runners went past first base, allowing X-Terminators to keep the lead and the win, the latter's 11th in 19 games. Ramblers dropped to a 3-14 mark.

Jay Cabrera went 4-for-4 for Advance and scored two runs and two RBIs. Dennis Ngeskebei was only 2-for-4 at

the plate, but made three RBIs and three runs.

Ur Balls 11, Calikano 1

Ur Balls notched their 11th win after whipping Calikano, 11-1.

Calikano scored only in the second inning on D.J. Omar's solo homer, but the team still absorbed its ninth loss in 18 games.

Calikano led by only four after four complete innings, 5-1, and then close out the game with six more runs in the next two innings for an easy win.

Chura 19, Fuego 4

Also cruising to an easy victory was Chura, which crushed Fuego, 19-4.

Leroy Sablan, Ben Tagabuel, and George David tallied three RBIs each to lift Chura to a 13-4 slate. Fuego remained at the cellar of the 21-team field with its 1-16 slate.

Chura played its best offensive game in the last inning, scoring seven runs at the top of the fourth.

See X-TERMINATORS on Page 26



Hustlers win as Fielders' strand 10 runners

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Hustlers seized the day by beating Tan Holdings

Fielders in a close game, 3-1, Saturday in the Senior Division of the Saipan Little League Baseball at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The win improved the Hustlers' mark to 4-6, while the loss dropped the Fielders to a 5-4 record.

Additionally, the Hunters and D-9ers match-up did not take place on Saturday due to forfeit by D-9ers.

In the top half of the first, the visiting Fielders put two runners on base, but left them stranded.

Then in the bottom half, McGarrete Duenas started it off for the Hustlers with a single and two stolen bases before sneaking in to score off a wild pitch.

Jeremy Lizama came up next and got a hit, stole a base, and

See HUSTLERS on Page 26



Winning pitcher McGarrete Duenas of Hustlers brought his A-game in Saturday's 2010 Senior League game against the Fielders.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Butch rules Mieke MTB fundraiser

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club's Butch Sublemente won his second bike race of the month after prevailing in the Mieke Carey Mountain Bike Fundraising Race on Sunday.

Sublemente, who topped the road bike category of the PIC Race for a Cause early this month, completed the weekend's MTB race to the northern portion of the island in 49 minutes and 23 seconds.

The PIC employee was the lone MTB rider to finish the long course under the 50-minute mark, as runner-up Bob Ferrer and third placer Tyce Mister timed in at 52:17 and 52:47, respectively.

The long course of the MTB race started from Paupau then to Banzai trail, Grotto trail, down to the Grotto parking lot, and up to Autobahn. Riders then crossed the road to Bird Island, went up Kimikaze, turned left towards the top of Suicide Cliff, turned left again on the jeep road behind the golf course, shifted to right on the trail that leads to the road to the golf course, took another left at the bottom of the hill (just across Marianas Country Club), and then went back to Paupau.

In the women's division, Heather Kennedy finished about two minutes ahead of her closest

See BUTCH on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Butch Sublemente makes his turn toward the finish line in the Mieke Carey Mountain Bike Fundraising Race at the Paupau beach parking lot on Sunday.